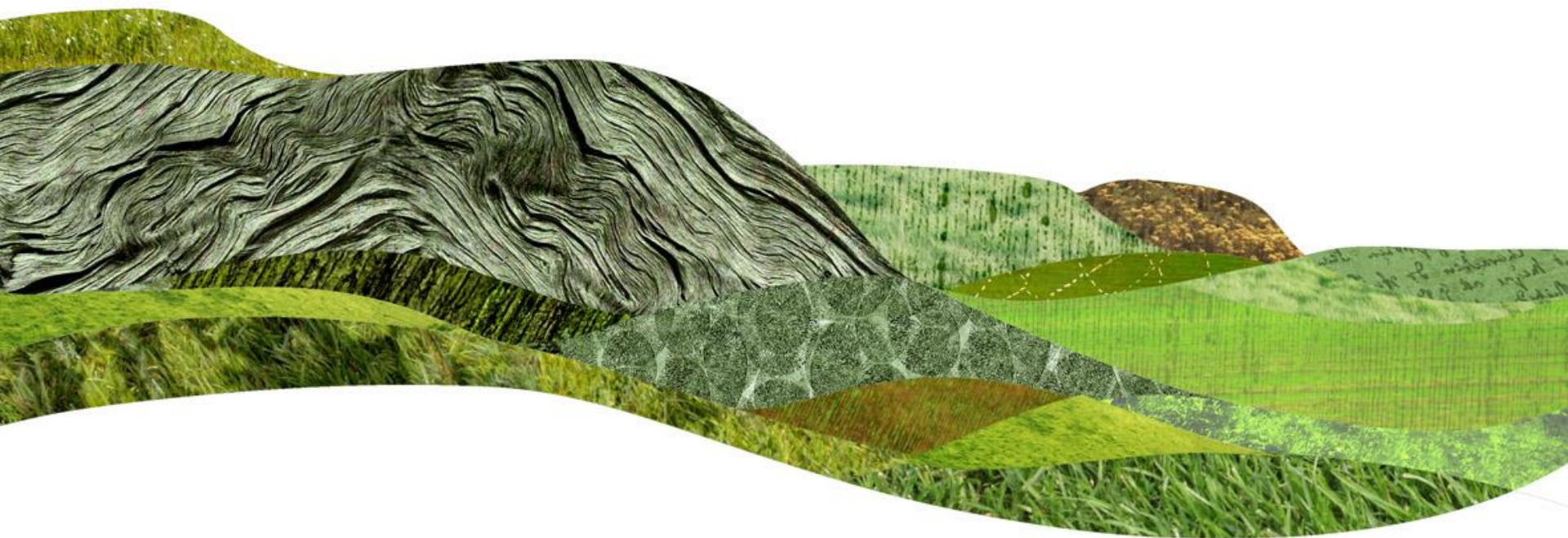


# Green Spaces Toolkit

Anne Rehill



# GREEN SPACES AND HOW WE USE THEM

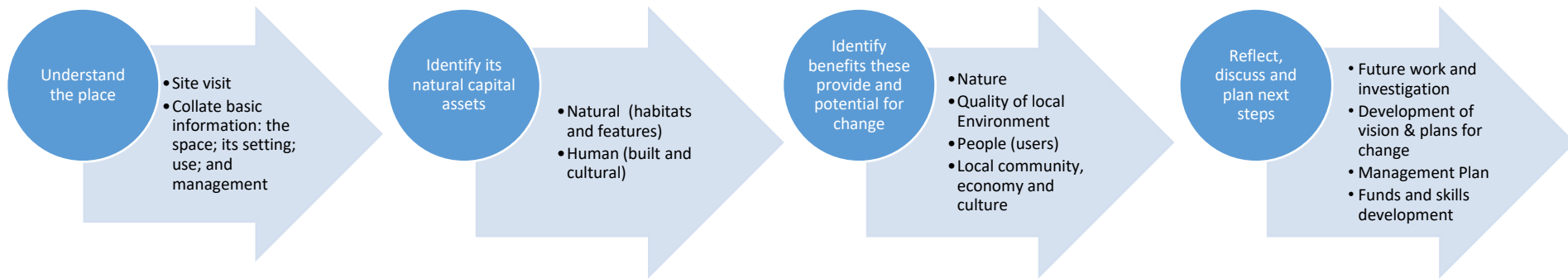


# The project

- Project concept developed 2020
- Publicly owned open spaces
- Understanding full value
- Links to natural capital
- Options to manage differently
- Toolkit and case studies



# Approach



- The toolkit sets out steps for an initial assessment of the benefits and potential of parks for nature and people
- The toolkit could be applied to all parks in a district, town or parish to help identify those which offer specific benefits and/or could be prioritised for action or resources



# Methodology

Legend  
 Condition of asset Good\*\*\*\* Moderate \*\* Poor \*  
 Potential condition Good \*\*\* Moderate \*\* Poor \*  
 Recommendation Protect, Enhance and/or Expand  
 The asset currently delivers benefits on this site ■ The asset possibly delivers benefits on this site (or very small level of benefit) □

Natural Capital Assets		Condition and Potential				Nature		Quality of local environment					People (users)					Community, culture & economy			
		Asset present/absent	Condition (current)	Condition (potential)	Recommendation	Biodiversity/wildlife	Pollination	Natural pest control	Air quality & noise regulation	Water quality regulation	Flood regulation	Urban cooling & shading	Carbon storage	Sense of Place/belonging	Connection to Nature	Access & Recreation	Health and wellbeing	Learning & Education	Social Interaction	Commercial activity	
Habitats													□	□				□			
Coastal Habitats	Vegetated Shingle	Present	*	**	Protect & Expand	■															
Grassland	Flowery & Tussocky grassland (bank)	Present	**	***	Protect & Enhance	■	■							□							
Marine/ open water area with shingle beach		Present	**	**	Protect	■				□			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
Natural Features/																					
Old walls/stone and brickwork		Present	**	**	Protect	■															
Old Timber Groynes		Present	**	**	Protect	■							■								
Other Indicators of importance																					
Continuity of flowering		Present	**	***	Enhance	■	■							■							
Species diversity		Present	*	***	Enhance	■	■							■				■			
Built Assets																					
Visitor Infrastructure	Car Park	Present	**	**	Protect											■					
	Club/clubhouse																				
	Kiosk [temporary]	Present	**	**	Protect											■			■	■	
	Seating	Present	**	***	Protect & Expand											■	■	■			
Heritage features	Historic Lighthouse	present	**	***	Protect & Enhance									■				■			
Cultural																					
Governance	Village Green status	Present	*	***	Protect & Enhance									■							
Traditions/customs	Site of RNLI lifeboat station	Present												■				■		■	
	Safe bathing	Present	**	**	Protect									■	■	■	■			■	
	Fishing mark(s)	Present	**	**	Protect									■	■	■	■			■	
Sensory elements and perceptions	Valued urban/industrial seascape	Present	**	***	Protect & Enhance									■	■	■	■	■	■	■	



# The case studies

Green Space	Ownership & Management	Typology
Buckingham Park, Shoreham-by-Sea	Adur & Worthing District. Managed by District Council Ranger Service and Operational Staff	Large urban park with good amenities Relatively affluent local community.
Steyne Gardens, Worthing	Adur & Worthing District. Managed by District Council Ranger Service and Operational Staff	Formal Garden in busy town centre. Part of historic conservation area. Events space
Kingston Beach, Shoreham-by-Sea	Adur & Worthing District. Managed by District Council Ranger Service and Operational Staff	Beach/Foreshore Urban/ industrial harbor setting
Crowborough Country Park, Crowborough	Crowborough Town Council Managed by Town Council Ranger Service	Country Park Semi-natural/woodland Urban edge
Hempstead Meadows LNR, Uckfield	Uckfield Town Council Managed by Town Council Parks/Ranger staff	Local Nature Reserve and Local Wildlife Site close to town centre
Uckfield Cemetery, Uckfield	Uckfield Town Council. Managed by Town Council Parks/Ranger staff	Small Historic Cemetery (with extension). Still in use. Urban edge
Maurice Thornton Recreation Ground, Hailsham	Hailsham Town Council (no parks staff/contractors). Local community sport organization very involved in driving change.	Medium sized town recreation ground with poor amenities

# Feedback from participants

- Ecological reports – are invaluable
- A map based presentation is most engaging
- Training or buying in ecological expertise may be needed
- In depth community engagement is vital
- Understanding local context is important
- This approach needs wide buy-in



# Potential challenges

## Political context

- Lack of funding
- Demonstrating Value
- Pressure to deliver more

## Resources

- Stretched staff can't reflect
- Need to deliver more for less
- Firefighting

## Administrative set up

- Dedicated staff can engage
- Siloed approach at very local level
- Staff may have will but no budget





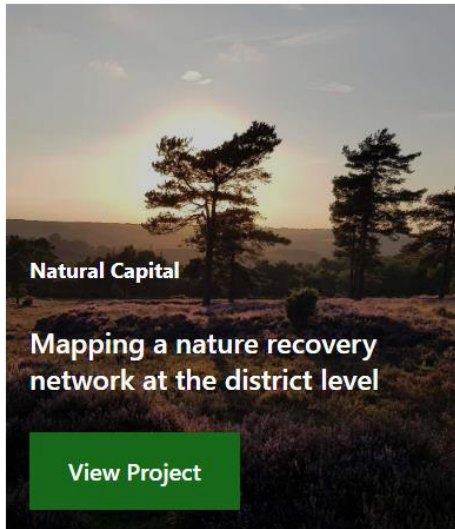
# Resources to help

[sussexlnp.org.uk](https://sussexlnp.org.uk)



[Home](#) [About Us](#) + [Our Work](#) + [Projects](#) [Local Nature Recovery Strategies](#) [News](#) [Resources](#) [Contact Us](#)

## Projects




**Natural Capital**  
Mapping a nature recovery network at the district level

[View Project](#)



**Nature, People and Health**  
Sussex Green Spaces Project:  
parks and green spaces for  
nature and people

[View Project](#)



**Climate Change**  
Woodland Opportunity  
Mapping

[View Project](#)





**Thank you**  
**Any questions?**

