

# TRULEIGH HILL LOCAL LANDSCAPE PLAN

**A GUIDE TO IMPROVING  
THE LANDSCAPE FOR  
PEOPLE AND NATURE**

By and for businesses, farms, land owners, local residents, local authorities, planning authorities, visitors, existing and potential users of the South Downs Way, the Youth Hostel and the surrounding network of footpaths and bridleways



# CONTENTS

- 1. INTRODUCTION ..... 2**
  - WORKING WITH PARTNERS TO PROTECT THE SDNP LANDSCAPE..... 2**
  - DEVELOPING THE LOCAL LANDSCAPE PLAN (LLP)..... 4**
  - CHALLENGES TO OVERCOME..... 5**
  - WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US ..... 6**
  - PARTS OF THE LLP..... 7**
- 2. TOPICS WHICH WERE RAISED IN THE ENGAGEMENT PROCESS. 8**
  - VEHICLE ACCESS & USE OF THE SOUTH  
DOWNS WAY ..... 8
  - LIMITED PARKING AND LOTS OF VISITORS IN CARS..... 9
  - WILDFLOWER CONSERVATION VERGES DAMAGED BY VEHICLES ..... 9
  - ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOURS ..... 10
  - INTERPRETATION AND INFORMATION ..... 10
  - LEARNING, ENGAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEERING ..... 11
  - UNCERTAINTY AROUND PLANNING REQUIREMENTS AND THE ROLE OF  
THE SDNPA ..... 11
  - TELECOMMUNICATIONS MASTS ..... 12
  - IMPROVE CHALK DOWNLAND MANAGEMENT & BRING NATURE THROUGH  
TRULEIGH HILL ..... 12
- 3. TABLE OF IDEAS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ..... 14**
- 4. NEXT STEPS ..... 20**
  - SDNPA ROLE ..... 20**
  - ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ..... 20**

## List of Figures

- FIGURE 1: THE SOUTH DOWNS SCARP SLOPE AT TRULEIGH HILL ..... 2
- FIGURE 2: WHERE TO FIND TRULEIGH HILL IN THE SOUTH DOWNS  
NATIONAL PARK ..... 3
- FIGURE 3: NATIONAL PARK PURPOSES ..... 4
- FIGURE 4: SCATTERED SCRUB ALONG A HISTORIC TRACK AT TRULEIGH HILL ..... 5
- FIGURE 5: VOLUNTEERS WORKING ON THE YOUTH HOSTEL FIELD –  
TRULEIGH HILL..... 5
- FIGURE 6: WALKERS AND CYCLISTS ON THE SOUTH DOWNS WAY AT  
TRULEIGH HILL..... 5
- FIGURE 7: SOME EXAMPLES OF THINGS THAT PEOPLE TOLD US ABOUT  
TRULEIGH HILL..... 6
- FIGURE 8: THE SOUTH DOWNS WAY BYWAY..... 8
- FIGURE 9: THE BEEDING HILL/FIVE WAYS NATIONAL TRUST CAR PARK..... 9
- FIGURE 10: PARKING ON VERGES AT TRULEIGH HILL..... 9
- FIGURE 11: DAMAGE TO THE DOWNLAND BY UNAUTHORISED VEHICLES ..... 10
- FIGURE 12: SDNPA ‘MEET THE FARMER’ NFC BASED INTERPRETATION ..... 10
- FIGURE 13: ‘BIKE IT WILD’ WITH SUSTRANS AT TRULEIGH HILL ..... 11
- FIGURE 14: TRULEIGH HILL RADIO STATION C1947 ..... 12
- FIGURE 15: CONTRASTING CHARACTER AT TRULEIGH HILL ..... 12
- FIGURE 16: ADONIS BLUE BUTTERFLY ..... 13



# 1. INTRODUCTION

Truleigh Hill is home to one of the highest communities within the South Downs National Park. It sits at 216 m above sea level north of Shoreham-by-Sea and is located on the South Downs Way National Trail (SDW).

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS TO PROTECT THE SDNP LANDSCAPE

**1.1** From the many vantage points along the South Downs Way there are stunning views of the sea and the surrounding countryside. Truleigh Hill Youth Hostel is a key focal point for the local community, providing rare facilities for visitors at the top of the Downs. Whilst the backdrop and setting of Truleigh Hill in the Downs is dramatic and breath-taking, there are unique pressures on the landscape which affect how the landscape is perceived and experienced. A key aspect is that Truleigh Hill is a remote working landscape which provides a living for local people through both livestock and arable farming.

**1.2** This **Local Landscape Plan** (LLP) describes the outcomes of many conversations, workshops, sessions and meetings which were undertaken by the Truleigh Hill Landscape Project Officer between 2018 and 2020 with further engagement work during 2022 (Note: The engagement process was impacted by the Covid pandemic). The purpose of this work was to develop an understanding of the issues that stakeholders experience and to record and shape this information into a plan.

*“View the Truleigh Hill Plan as an ongoing process. The interests and problems involved are complex and, in some cases, appear to be irreconcilable. A willingness to review, adapt and evolve policies is more likely to find good solutions over time”.*

**A quote from one of the stakeholders about the plan**

Figure 1: The South Downs scarp slope at Truleigh Hill



© SDNPA/Sam Moore

Figure 2: Where to find Truleigh Hill in the South Downs National Park



## The role of the National Park Authority

The Authority is a public body, funded by government, and run by a board of 27 Members.

The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) is responsible for keeping the South Downs a special place. It is also the planning authority for the National Park working with Horsham DC as host authority in this location. The SDNPA is responsible for Access Land management, (land designated under the Countryside and Rights of Way CROW Act 2000); it hosts the South Downs Way Partnership and also delivers the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme and a range of projects and initiatives to deliver National Park Purposes. Resources permitting, and wherever possible, it will use these statutory powers and levers to help deliver the Local Landscape Plan (LLP).

Figure 3: National Park purposes



## DEVELOPING THE LOCAL LANDSCAPE PLAN (LLP)

**1.3** Since 2018, with funding from both the Rampion Wind Farm community fund and the SDNPA, the Authority has been working with local people and other stakeholders to develop the LLP. This work aims to capture the views and feedback from people familiar with Truleigh Hill and also under-represented audiences and those individuals and communities who may experience barriers to accessing and enjoying the area. We also talked to the residents, and the business owners and farmers of Truleigh Hill to understand the day-to-day issues they experience and generate possible solutions. Few of the issues are straightforward and easy to resolve.

**1.4** In 2022 the SDNPA drafted the LLP using the information gathered to date. A residents workshop was held (hosted by Resources for change Ltd) and further engagement with wider stakeholder groups was undertaken to invite feedback on the draft. LLP The final plan has been amended to take account of the comments received during this process. The full report on the engagement undertaken in 2022 by Resources for Change is available [here](#).

**1.5** The priorities which have emerged from this process are:

- **Improving** how people access and move around the landscape including
  - Public transport to the site,
  - Parking & passing bays,
  - Road and path surfacing,
  - Footpaths, routes and repairs.
- **Mediating** the interactions between visitors and residents by having a stronger recognition that Truleigh Hill is a working landscape. By addressing issues of potential conflict eg
  - Car, parking and road issues,
  - Dogs, livestock and responsible poo picking
  - Anti-social behaviour
  - Dialogue between residents and user groups
  - Naming a joint cause



- **Upgrading** the interpretation on site to inform people about the special features of the site and to focus on the quality of the visit, not the quantity of visitors to measure success;
  - Natural
  - Historical
  - Cultural
- **Practical** ways to improve habitats for wildlife for volunteers, residents, landowners & farmer

## CHALLENGES TO OVERCOME

- The lack of a collective community voice and ongoing dialogue with potential delivery partners
- Poor understanding of organisational responsibilities
- Understanding the role of the SDNPA
- Relationships between a wide range of stakeholders with differing perspectives and
- Developing collaboration and confidence between stakeholders

**Figure 4: Scattered scrub along a historic track at Truleigh Hill**



© SDNPA

**Figure 5: Volunteers working on the Youth Hostel Field – Truleigh Hill**



© SDNPA

**Figure 6: Walkers and cyclists on the South Downs Way at Truleigh hill**

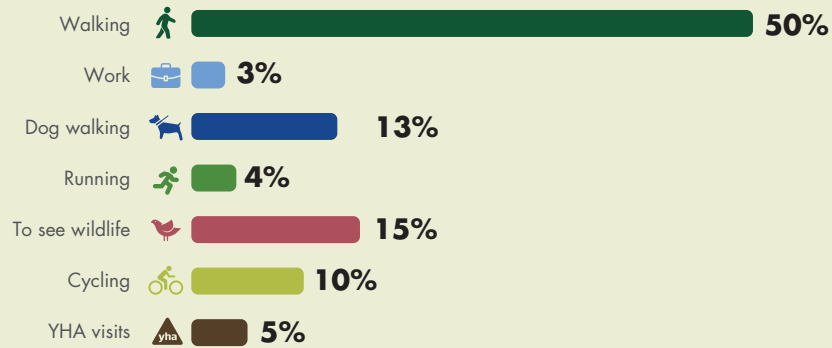


© SDNPA

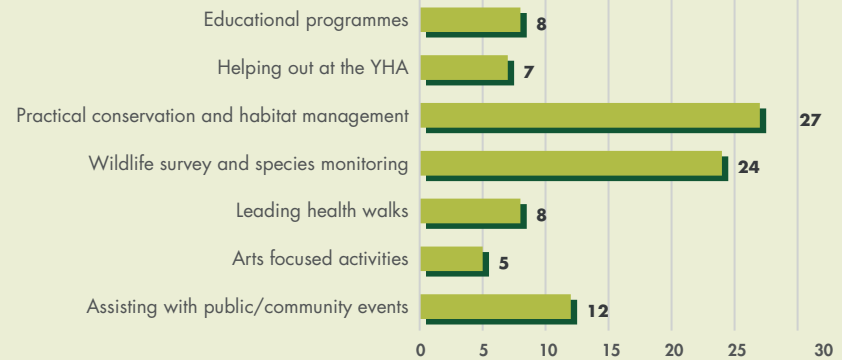
## WHAT PEOPLE TOLD US

Figure 7: Some examples of things that people told us about Truleigh Hill

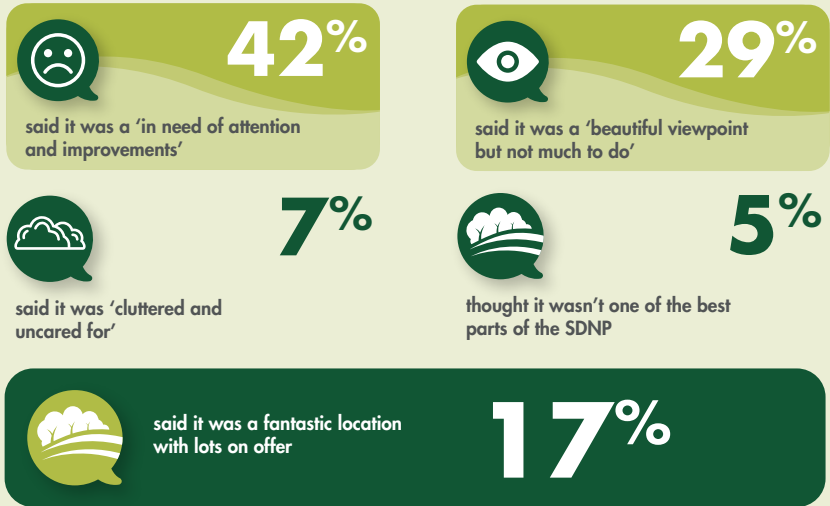
### What do people do at Truleigh Hill?



### What kind of volunteering would you like to do?



### What makes Truleigh Hill special?



### What could be done to improve Truleigh Hill?





## PARTS OF THE LLP

**1.6** The LLP covers a wide range of issues which stakeholders have identified during the consultation process. The collection of documents which make up the LLP are designed to be non-technical and accessible for a wide range of

audiences. It comprises the following sections all of which can be accessed from [southdowns.gov.uk/truleigh-hill-local-landscape-plan](https://southdowns.gov.uk/truleigh-hill-local-landscape-plan)



### Truleigh Hill Summary Report (This document)

- Non-technical description of the project,
- Objectives and outcomes
- Recommended actions

### Guidance about the landscape

- Land Management Guidance
- Links to planning documents:
  - SDNP Local Plan
  - Shoreham Cement Works Local Area Action Plan
  - Sustainable Design SPD
  - Equestrian Technical Advice Note

### Technical Reports

- Landscape character
- Woodland opportunity mapping
- South Downs Way Report
- Maps of designations and landscape information
- Stakeholder engagement activity 2018-2021

### 'What's on' page

- Live information page for:
- Works and projects
  - Volunteering information and sign up
  - YHA info
  - Meet the Farmer
  - Countryside Code
  - Where not to Park
  - FAQs – answers to common questions

**1.7 Using the LLP:** The plan focusses on the landscape around Truleigh Hill and the South Downs Way and the issues which affect its perception, enjoyment, and functions for people who live, work and visit the area. Often these issues are interlinked.. Some of the issues raised are very specific to this area – eg exotic tree removals, however others are more extensive

– eg vehicle use, transport and parking. The scope of the plan has been determined by the conversations with stakeholders, not by a defined project extent. The purpose of the plan is to start a process of collaboration around the issues raised and over time find solutions to address them as part of an adaptive process.

## 2. TOPICS RAISED IN THE ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The range of issues raised by the stakeholders have been grouped into themes below for ease. Some of the themes are not obviously land management or landscape based, but when considered as part of the overall picture of challenges at Truleigh Hill, all of the following cumulatively influence the condition of the landscape in this part of the National Park.

### VEHICLE ACCESS & USE OF THE SOUTH DOWNS WAY

**2.1** The South Downs Way is not a road but a restricted byway beyond the Youth Hostel Association (YHA) at Truleigh Hill. This means it is open for public use for non-motorised traffic only. Authorised motor vehicles including farm vehicles and residents cars may use it to gain access to land and property only. Use of the byway by other unauthorised vehicles occurs regularly and causes friction, congestion and erosion of the South Downs Way surface making it problematic for legitimate users. Large vehicles, for example, coaches visiting the Truleigh Hill YHA, have nowhere to turn at the Youth Hostel and have to go further along the South Downs Way byway to turn round. Excessive unauthorised traffic in this area has a considerable impact on the experience of visitors and residents and there are concerns with public safety.

Figure 8: The South Downs Way byway



© SDNPA



## LIMITED PARKING AND LOTS OF VISITORS IN CARS

**2.2** There are car parks at Mill Hill Nature Reserve, close to Shoreham and at Beeding Hill Five Ways (National Trust – see photo) at the top of the hill above Upper Beeding. Both have limited spaces and overspill car parking along the single track lane is commonplace. The YHA car park is intended for visitors to the YHA and when the site is busy can also be at capacity, which forces vehicles to park along the National Trail. The length of the lane between Five Ways and Truleigh Hill is alongside the South Downs Way with its many users on bikes, equestrians and walkers/runners. Parking along the narrow lane causes congestion which affects the many users of the SD W and others who have to walk /ride/cycle alongside parked cars and moving vehicles. Vehicles are often left in gateways and residential drives and can block access for residents, business users and agricultural workers. Vehicle clutter impacts on other users and their enjoyment of the views and the area.

**Figure 9: The Beeding Hill/Five Ways National Trust car park**



© SDNPA

## WILDFLOWER CONSERVATION VERGES DAMAGED BY VEHICLES

**2.3** Frequent parking along and on the verges of the lane is causing damage and loss of areas of chalk downland verge. Collectively the verge areas provide a significant area for wildflowers, invertebrate habitat and food for pollinating species. The verges also contribute to the natural beauty and sense of place in the downland and demonstrate the importance of conservation management versus regular cutting for 'neat/amenity' style verges. The erosion and compaction of the verges due to traffic pressure affects the rural character of the lane and undermines the road construction affecting drainage patterns and access for users, many of which will be on foot or bicycle.

**Figure 10: Parking on verges at Truleigh hill**



© SDNPA



### ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOURS

**2.4** It is unfortunate that illegal and antisocial behaviour are significant issues at Truleigh Hill. This impacts on the quality of experience for visitors to the area and for local residents and businesses.

- Off roading motorbike users are damaging some of the most highly sensitive and valuable habitat, for example, Beeding Hill SSSI.
- Inappropriate speeds of drivers and cyclists particularly on steep sections of the SDW track affect the enjoyment and safety of other users. This is of increasing concern given the increase in popularity and use of the YHA by families and community groups, children and visitors with special needs.
- Joyriding along bridleways in stolen cars happens periodically. The cars are raced and then burnt out.
- Regular and ongoing littering and fly tipping on the approach road to Truleigh Hill, along the South Downs Way National Trail, across farmland and in front of field entrance gates.
- Wilful damage to fences affecting livestock and security

**Figure 11: Damage to the downland by unauthorised vehicles**



© SDNPA

### INTERPRETATION AND INFORMATION

**2.5** Many people fed back that they felt there was a lack of information and interpretation about Truleigh Hill, both online and on the ground. Of those surveyed, 80% said that they would like to see more schools using Truleigh Hill for educational purposes and more open access educational resources. There was a particular interest in nature trails, local history and heritage information and resources on wildlife conservation and habitats.

**2.6** Information about parking arrangements, accessibility, facilities, accessible signposted circular routes were also raised as important to visitors and would also assist local residents in addressing problems in advance, for example, parking.

**Figure 12: SDNPA 'Meet the Farmer' NFC based interpretation**



© SDNPA

**2.7** Interest groups at Truleigh Hill would like to explore the use of Near-Field Communication (NFC) technology to share educational resources and content about the area and habitats. This has been used successfully elsewhere in the SDNP eg 'Meet the Farmer' initiative.

**2.8** There is interest in having more interpretation for the heritage aspects of Truleigh Hill for visitors to learn more about its history including the nuclear bunker and its use as a radar station during WW2.

### LEARNING, ENGAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEERING

**2.9** Sustained community engagement will be an extremely important component in securing long term change and landscape improvement at Truleigh Hill. Also important is the support of the wide range of visitors to Truleigh Hill. Many of these groups would welcome the opportunity to do more. Previously, groups have fed back that having Truleigh Hill on their doorstep is an invaluable asset that supports and contributes to treatment for a range of health conditions. Initiatives such as self-led schools programmes, health and well-being activities, engagement programmes for specific groups like the elderly, people with disabilities and young people could include vocational skills development, creative and arts based activities, local history and heritage or surveying biodiversity. Curriculum linked guided walks for schools and the possible development of a flexible/drop in volunteer opportunities to complement other more formal groups, for example the Volunteer Ranger Service, and deliver long term habitat and landscape improvement works. Contact with animals can also be beneficial to health and well being and this may be possible to explore at Truleigh Hill

**Figure 13: 'Bike it wild' with Sustrans at Truleigh Hill**



© SDNPA

### UNCERTAINTY AROUND PLANNING REQUIREMENTS AND THE ROLE OF THE SDNPA

**2.10** Truleigh Hill has developed largely since the 1940's through a range of post war development following its use as a radar station in WW2. There is archaeology embedded in the surrounding landscape, but Truleigh Hill itself was open downland, a barn and the South Downs Way before the mid 1900's. Its character is very different to other downland settlements within the SDNP because of its more recent history. There has been a lot of change in the landscape since 1940 onwards. Because of this, more clarity is required for users of the planning system about recognising its unique character and the key features which contribute to positive character at Truleigh Hill. The twin advisory and planning roles of the SDNPA are not well understood and greater clarity on this is desirable.



## TELECOMMUNICATIONS MASTS

**2.11** The installation of the radar station at Truleigh hill during WW2 was followed by further telecommunications equipment as the technology rapidly developed during the 20th century. There are four masts in two locations on the hill, one of which is next to the SDW. Some stakeholders would like to see the masts removed altogether and others see them fondly as a landmark/home marker. They are visible for miles around, from across the downs and beyond the National Park and are part of the history of the area.

**2.12** There are opportunities for greater interpretation about this aspect of history at Truleigh Hill. The compounds and ancillary equipment on the ground around the base of the towers is unsightly however and could be screened or broken up in views by using scattered scrub plantings along verges and adjacent land. This is particularly valuable along the South Downs way National Trail.

**Figure 14: Truleigh Hill radio station**



© SDNPA

**Figure 15: Contrasting character at Truleigh Hill**



© SDNPA



**Figure 16: Adonis blue butterfly**



© SDNPA

### **IMPROVE CHALK DOWNLAND MANAGEMENT & BRING NATURE THROUGH TRULEIGH HILL**

**2.13** Bringing nature through Truleigh Hill and along the SDW is an ambition for Truleigh Hill as part of the National Park Authority's #ReNature Campaign. It is widely recognised that contact with nature improves health and well being and new areas of well managed habitat will help to conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the South Downs National Park.

**2.14** Conservation grazing could be used to re-establish chalk downland. There are learning opportunities for schools and the wider community through

locating grazing schemes alongside the National Trail and other prominent locations, for example, the YHA.

**2.15** Improving chalk downland management would create more butterfly habitat and this could be a strong theme for engagement with nature through butterfly spotting, surveying, monitoring and volunteering for a range of ages and abilities.

# 3. TABLE OF IDEAS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

These recommendations and ideas for Truleigh Hill have come from the engagement work and the advice and opinions of the various stakeholders. This list could form the basis for a community led plan for the area. To be successful, the plan will require strong engagement and support from a wide range of partner organisations.

Issue	Recommendations which could be taken forward by relevant partners working with each other	Potential partners	Potential funding sources
<p><b>Vehicle access &amp; use of the South Downs Way</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Traffic calming and control measures, signage and public information at the YHA at the start of the restricted byway. Options could include CCTV, speed bumps, kent gap or entrance gate. Intervention must not impede farm vehicles or residential traffic.</li> <li>■ Work with residents of Truleigh Hill, Local Farm, County Council and Sussex Police to implement stronger enforcement action for persistent offenders, (use of DISC system and CCTV?).</li> <li>■ Improvements to surfacing and drainage along the South Downs Way National Trail.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Highway Authority (WSCC)</li> <li>■ Local Authority (Horsham)</li> <li>■ Local residents</li> <li>■ YHA &amp; other business stakeholders</li> <li>■ SDNPA (Planning)</li> <li>■ SDNPA Countryside &amp; Policy (C&amp;P)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ CIL</li> <li>■ Highway Authority community fund</li> <li>■ Local Council grant</li> </ul>
<p><b>Limited Parking and lots of visitors in cars</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Delivery of public information and behaviour change campaign to discourage parking on the verge areas.</li> <li>■ Creation of temporary parking area in partnership with local landowner (could encourage more cars by mistake).</li> <li>■ Pre-booking system for parking and access – possible revenue, Community Interest Company?</li> <li>■ Lack of public transport needs to be addressed to provide an alternative.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Highway Authority (WSCC)</li> <li>■ Local residents</li> <li>■ YHA &amp; other business stakeholders</li> <li>■ Local Planning Authority</li> <li>■ SDNPA (Planning)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ CIL</li> <li>■ Private investment</li> <li>■ Possible CIC</li> </ul>

Issue	Recommendations which could be taken forward by relevant partners working with each other	Potential partners	Potential funding sources
<p><b>Trees hedges and scrub</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Phased removal of non-native tree species from the public realm.</li> <li>■ Replanting with native species.</li> <li>■ Improve woodland management to increase species/habitat diversity.</li> <li>■ Planting new scattered native scrub in priority locations to mimic existing character of hedges in partnership with landowners. These would provide habitat connectivity and support nature friendly farming. Should not block views or become dominant as a feature in the landscape.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ WSCC</li> <li>■ Landowners</li> <li>■ SDNPA (C&amp;P)</li> <li>■ Conservation organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Forestry Commission</li> <li>■ Woodland Trust</li> <li>■ Countryside Stewardship</li> <li>■ Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL)</li> <li>■ SDNPA Renature campaign</li> </ul>
<p><b>Wildflower conservation verges damaged by vehicles</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Option to initiate conservation verge management at identified locations along the National Trail at Truleigh Hill. Schemes should be piloted with a view to roll out over a larger area if successful.</li> <li>■ Additional signage and sensitively designed preventative measures could be used. Support delivery of public information and conservation verge management.</li> <li>■ Behaviour change campaign to discourage parking on the verge areas alongside the South Downs Way National Trail.</li> <li>■ Regular surveys and species monitoring should be employed to evaluate the successfulness of the pilot schemes, utilizing volunteer surveyors where possible.</li> <li>■ Cut and collect mowing is a viable alternative to grazing for conservation management of chalk downland and species rich grassland. Hay cutting is another alternative. There are potential opportunities for training &amp; apprenticeship placements for grassland conservation management if access to the right machinery can be arranged to support such a project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ WSCC Highway Authority</li> <li>■ Local landowners</li> <li>■ SDNPA (C&amp;P)</li> <li>■ Local residents</li> <li>■ Volunteers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ CIL</li> <li>■ FIPL,</li> <li>■ Countryside Stewardship</li> </ul>



Issue	Recommendations which could be taken forward by relevant partners working with each other	Potential partners	Potential funding sources
<p><b>Grazing management for chalk downland</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Disseminate information to farmers and horse managers relating to good land management practice in protected landscapes.</li> <li>■ Expand grazing at Truleigh Hill and to raise public awareness with regards to chalk downland conservation, regeneration and preservation.</li> <li>■ Develop joint volunteer activities for residents and visitors around chalk downland management. Focus on a particular theme – eg butterflies with Butterfly Conservation Trust.</li> <li>■ Link with Health and Well-being around contact with nature.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Local landowners &amp; farmers</li> <li>■ Equestrians</li> <li>■ SDNPA (C&amp;P)</li> <li>■ Conservation bodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Countryside Stewardship</li> <li>■ Farming in Protected Landscapes</li> <li>■ Changing Chalk</li> <li>■ SDNPA ReNature Campaign</li> </ul>
<p><b>Anti-Social Behaviours</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Increase high visibility signage at entrance points to problem hotspots, to inform rider that they are committing an offence. Regularly assess signage to ensure it is not being removed or damaged by riders.</li> <li>■ Pilot and evaluate the installation of covert trail cameras and CCTV at identified problem hotspots, to capture offending and identify offenders, so that enforcement action can be implemented. (Use of DISC system).</li> <li>■ Work with partners including Sussex Police to disseminate information to local riders and initiate a behaviour change campaign across the area. Look to engage offenders on site and co-produce solutions and alternatives in preference to enforcement action.</li> <li>■ Expand the local Neighbourhood Watch programme, so that a greater number of users of the South Downs National Park are capturing and reporting incidences of Anti-Social Behaviour within the Park (in a safe way). This could include walking groups, horse riders, cyclists and local residents.</li> <li>■ Volunteer and community litter picking and community clean ups.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sussex Police</li> <li>■ Local residents</li> <li>■ Landowners</li> <li>■ SDNPA/ Horsham (planning)</li> <li>■ Volunteers</li> </ul>	

Issue	Recommendations which could be taken forward by relevant partners working with each other	Potential partners	Potential funding sources
<p><b>Interpretation and information</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Work with educational partners to develop educational resource packs and curriculum linked learning materials, which will be available to visiting schools, community groups and families. Develop a bank of equipment which can also be used to support environmental learning and Learning outside the classroom (LOtC).</li> <li>■ The production of short educational films in collaboration with local interest groups, focusing on the habitats and biodiversity at Truleigh Hill, which can be available to download via NFC tags. Include elements which explore the inter-relationship between food production, land management and biodiversity value.</li> <li>■ The production of educational resources which share information about the history and heritage of Truleigh Hill, which can be made available to local visitors as hardcopies through the YHA and also electronically.</li> <li>■ Continue developing proposals for the production of downloadable educational content with existing stakeholders including Shoreham College, Esteem and Company Paradiso (Local Youth Organisations).</li> <li>■ Information about parking arrangements, accessibility, facilities, accessible signposted circular routes were also raised as important to visitors and would also assist local residents in addressing problems in advance, for example, parking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ YHA</li> <li>■ SDNPA (C&amp;P)</li> <li>■ Local Youth organisations</li> <li>■ Schools and colleges</li> <li>■ Arquiva (Telecommunications)</li> <li>■ RAF /MOD</li> <li>■ Brighton Food Partnership</li> </ul>	

Issue	Recommendations which could be taken forward by relevant partners working with each other	Potential partners	Potential funding sources
<p><b>Learning, Engagement and volunteering</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sustained independent and self-led schools programs.</li> <li>■ Curriculum linked guided visits for visiting schools delivered by community partners (Sussex Wildlife Trust (SWT)/So Sussex).</li> <li>■ Health and Wellbeing focused activities to engage under-represented and disadvantaged groups with the natural environment and National Park, for improved health and wellbeing. Examples include the Bike it Wild project with Sustrans and SWT or Walks and Talks for the elderly with the Independent Lives Project).</li> <li>■ Engagement programmes of specific user groups, including the elderly, people with disabilities, and young people. Individual projects could include vocational skills development, creative and arts based activities, local history and heritage or surveying and biodiversity.</li> <li>■ The development of an independent casual volunteer group for Truleigh Hill which can complement the work of the VRS and delivery longer terms habitat improvement works and landscape interventions</li> <li>■ Opportunities for joint stakeholder volunteer activities which can also open the dialogue between groups.</li> <li>■ Improvements to facilities to make YHA more accessible for all users – eg accessible ramp and toilet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Local Primary Care Networks</li> <li>■ Sport England</li> <li>■ WSCC &amp; ESCC</li> <li>■ Local schools</li> <li>■ Sustrans</li> <li>■ Independent Lives Project</li> <li>■ Records Centre</li> <li>■ SDNPA Eastern Area Team</li> <li>■ VCS</li> <li>■ Social prescribing organisations in arts and nature</li> <li>■ YHA</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Uncertainty around planning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Disseminate information about this project with planning teams and Horsham District Council who provide delegated planning authority services to the SDNPA. Possibly through online workshop.</li> <li>■ Prepare land management guidance, materials palette, guidance on hedge, scrub and tree planting and links to other relevant planning documents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SDNPA(Planning)</li> <li>■ Horsham DC</li> <li>■ SDNPA (C&amp;P)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SDNPA Planning</li> </ul>



Issue	Recommendations which could be taken forward by relevant partners working with each other	Potential partners	Potential funding sources
<b>Telecommunication Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Work with the mast operators to consolidate equipment and reduce the number of masts.</li> <li>■ Seek opportunities for scattered scrub and tree planting to reduce the up-close impacts from the mast compounds and service areas on the SDW.</li> <li>■ Create interactive interpretation around the history and technology of the sites.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ SDNPA</li> <li>■ Arquia (Telecommunications)</li> <li>■ SDNPA (C&amp;P)</li> <li>■ Interested heritage and technology groups/colleges</li> </ul>	

**3.1** See the **Truleigh Hill live action plan** to see work to date, further information and dates for volunteering.

## 4. NEXT STEPS

**This LLP has been developed in partnership with a wide range of individuals, organisations and groups who have an interest in Truleigh Hill and its landscape.**

**4.1** Through the sharing of experience, knowledge, ideas and problems it is hoped that the LLP will be a springboard to encourage the partners to coordinate and collaborate to take on some of these difficult issues.

### **SDNPA ROLE**

**4.2** The SDNPA will be supportive to these efforts wherever possible but in particular, where the issues align with the **SDNPA Corporate Plan 2022-23**. Such as; meeting the targets for nature recovery; climate action and the reduction of the carbon footprint of the SDNP; also through targeting under-represented groups working to ensure that the National Park is for everyone to enjoy. The SDNPA, as part of its day to day work will also continue to host to the South Downs Way Trail Partnership and the team who look after the trail. In addition, the SDNP eastern area ranger team will continue to work locally with volunteers, landowners and groups to achieve conservation projects on the ground. There are other initiative such **Farming in Protected Landscapes** (FIPL) which the SDNPA may also be able to assist with depending on resources.

### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**4.3** SDNPA would like to thank the following for their help in contributing to this project:

- Rampion I Wind Farm Section 106 Community Fund
- All the stakeholders who gave their time generously to help develop this plan and to implement things on the ground – landowners, Businesses, local residents, visitors, and volunteers.
- YHA Truleigh Hill who provide the ongoing local community resource and facilities
- Terra Firma Landscape Consultants who helped with the landscape analysis for the plan
- SDNPA Eastern Ranger Team who provide ongoing land management advice and a link between the Authority and local stakeholders
- Resources for Change LTD who worked with stakeholders to finish the plan
- Phillip Paulo the Truleigh Hill Landscape Project Officer 2018–2020







# TRULEIGH HILL LOCAL LANDSCAPE PLAN