



Emersons Green Town Council Community Nature Reserve

Foundation Document

Introduction

The first community nature reserve that included private gardens was launched in 2015 by Adrian Cooper in Felixstowe. Chris Sunderland, of Friends of Emersons Green Park, and also a member of EGTC Climate and Nature Working Group, introduced the idea to Emersons Green Town Council after a conversation with Ben Barker of Southville, Bristol, whose area is doing something similar. The idea was formally adopted by Emersons Green Town Council on 10th November 2022 and a launch event was held in Emersons Green Village Hall on the 19th January 2023 attended by around sixty people. The initiative was reported fully in the March 2023 edition of Emersons Green Voice.

The Aims

The aims of the Community Nature Reserve are to

- increase the diversity of wildlife in the town council area
- build community life around a wildlife concern
- increase our knowledge of, and respect for, the natural world

Method

To encourage residents within the town council area to register their gardens and say what they are doing to increase biodiversity.

To create a digital interface for such registration and to keep in touch with those who register.

To create and maintain a Facebook group so that people, who wish to, can tell stories of what is happening around the area.

To put on events in pursuit of the aims.

To create local interest in the areas of land managed by Emersons Green Town Council and South Glos with a view to increasing biodiversity and particularly to cooperate in regard to the Local Nature Action Plan and the Common Connections project.

To carry out wildlife surveys of the local area in cooperation with local groups such as Friends of Emersons Green Park and Lyde Green Open Space.

To work with other partners as appropriate such as Avon Wildlife Trust.

To protect the privacy of those people who register their gardens.

Other actions in pursuit of the aims.

Area of Interest

Defined by the boundary of Emersons Green Town Council

Structure

The project will be managed by the Climate and Nature working group of Emersons Green Town Council, consisting of council members and local people and currently chaired by Cllr Bobbie Sunderland.

The project will work on an entirely cross-party basis and has no affiliation to any political party.

Bobbie Sunderland

21/3/23