

LIVERPOOL CITY REGION LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING NOTES AND ACTIONS

Date:	13th October 2021 2:00 p.m.		
Present:	Gideon Ben-Tovim OBE (GBT)	Chair	
	Michelle Whalley (MWh)	Mersey Forest / Nature Connected	
	Jo Holden (JH)	Peel Holdings	
	Dr Alan Jemmett (AJ)	Merseyside Environmental Advisory	
	Caroline Holmes (CH) (Part)	Knowsley Council	
	Rachel Rhodes (RR)	Merseyside Environmental Advisory	
	Ashley Bennington (AB)	Environment Agency	
	Joe Whittick (JW)	Merseyside Environmental Advisory	
	Gaynor Murphy (GM)	United Utilities	
	Andrew Clark (AC)	Merseyside Environmental Advisory	
	Lucy Abram (LA)	Natural England	
		Caroline Riley (CR)	Health Waterways Trust
		Nick Thompson (NT)	Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)
Apologises	Annie Merry (AM)	Faiths For Change	
	Christine Derbyshire (CD)	Liverpool City Council	
	Colm Bowe (CB)	LJMU	
	Michelle Cameron	Liverpool Chamber of Commerce	
	Paul Nolan	Mersey Forest	
	Carl Beer	MWRA	
	John Dempsey	Green Sefton	
Circulation:	As above & Board members.		
Item	Comments	Action	
1.0	Welcome, Introductions, apologies, previous minutes (Gideon Ben-Tovim)		

**LIVERPOOL CITY REGION LOCAL NATURE PARTNERSHIP
BOARD MEETING
NOTES AND ACTIONS**

2.0	<p>Environment Bill – Alan Jemmett and team from MEAS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Environment Bill presents a massive opportunity for the green environment going forward, often greener biodiversity type issues have been poorly resourced – • Can't separate climate emergency and biodiversity emergency. • Mark Dickens (CA) has asked MEAS to produce a briefing with regards to the Environment Bill and MEAS will consult, coordinate, and respond on behalf of city region. It is important that we amplify and coordinate our messaging – we do need to retain sufficient flexibility in the process to meet characteristics of the City Region. Draft will be circulated in the next few weeks – date will be given to comment and this will then be submitted. • The Board were asked to comment and provided the following recommendations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Nature Connected Board support being part of joint response – though they cannot ratify it until they have seen it. b) Each organisation within the collaboration has every right to express their views as they feel they need to. c) All representatives at the NC agreed that they wanted to be part of the response. d) The Board agreed that MEAS is a competent body to carry out this piece of work. e) That the Combined Authority coordinate the process, we would feed into it - Local Nature Partnership will feed into strategy. <p>Bridging the gap to implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will come down to the statutory responsibilities that the CA will have. <p>A series of short presentations were held by officers from MEAS as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joe Whittick (MEAS) provided a short presentation - Local Nature Recovery Strategy – key messages for the consultation and considerations for the Liverpool City Region, where we currently are within the LCR. 	
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BOARD MEETING
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity Net Gain – update from BNG – Rachel Rhodes • State of Nature Report – Andrew Clark. 	
	<p>Updates from the LCR Climate Partnership (Gideon Ben-Tovim)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work continues – regular monthly meetings, well attended – including colleagues from Nature Connected Board. • Events COP26 Event was held early October at St George’s Hall – platform – ecological emergency. Some NC partners there. • Combined Authority will have a slot in Glasgow COP 26 – City region being the renewable energy coast for Britain – offshore wind, Hynet, Mersey Tidal – this will be emphasised at COP • Discussions are continuing around the second Green Summit – date yet to be confirmed though it is planned to be held in December – celebrating community projects – and will also launch the new document the climate partnership will be producing – pathway to 2040 – road map – this will be followed – with years 2-5 climate action plan. 	
3.0	<p>Recreation and Mitigation Strategy – Alan Jemmett</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One of the issues – as population has changed and as new housing development continues has been that protected sites have come under increasing pressure for recreation. • Covid 19 pandemic has shown how important these spaces are. Huge responsibility, BBQ’s, fires, escaped garden plants are all causing habitat disturbance and wildlife damage. Quality of designated sites has been deteriorating. We need to reverse this, in context of climate change. • Integrating into climate emergency response • Footprint ecology – leading consultancy in recreation pressure in England – work for LA and NE, to do some 	

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BOARD MEETING
NOTES AND ACTIONS

	<p>initial work to create a strategy to protect the coast. Initial data was quite out of date so a need to commission some new work – then came along covid, social restrictions etc – unprecedented levels of use – so we are biding our time but under a lot of pressure to sort this out – footprint ecology face to face surveys – to better understand what people are doing in these locations – where from, how they get there etc do this strategically across the LCR. Honey pots / parks – alternatives? Augmented – car parks</p>	
5.0	<p>Partner Updates - a chance for any member to update on recent significant issues/developments/bids (All)</p> <p>A round table was held for partners to share updates.</p>	
8.0	<p>Any other Business</p>	
8.0	<p>Next Meeting 19/01/2022 2pm via zoom</p>	