

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

Date:	Wednesday 22 nd January 2pm.		
Present:	Gideon Ben-Tovim OBE (GBT)x	Chair	
	Michelle Whalley (MWh)x	Mersey Forest / Nature Connected	
	Jo Holden (JH)*	Peel Holdings	
	Dr Alan Jemmett (AJ)x	Merseyside Environmental Advisory	
	Caroline Holmes (CH) (x	Knowsley Council	
	Steve Wong (SW)	United Utilities	
	Caroline Riley (CR)*	Health Waterways Trust	
	Nick Thompson (NT)*	Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE)	
	Steven Sykes	2030hub	
	Don Thompson	Merseyside Environmental Trust	
	Carl Beer	MWRA	
	Christine Derbyshire	Liverpool City Council	
	Dr Colm Bowe	LJMU	
	Rachel Hamner - Dwight	University of Liverpool	
	Annie Merry (AM)	Faiths For Change	
	Richard Scott / Polly Mosely	National Wildflower Centre / Eden project	
	Apologises		
	Ashley Bennington (AB)	Environment Agency	
	Michelle Cameron	Liverpool Chamber of Commerce	
	Paul Nolan	Mersey Forest	
John Dempsey	Green Sefton		
Circulation:	As above & Board members.		

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Item	Comments	Action
1.0	Welcome, Introductions, apologies, previous minutes (Gideon Ben-Tovim)	
2.0	Scouse Flowerhouse Update – Ricard Scott/ Polly Moseley (Director National Wildflower Centre/Eden Project) RS provided update on the NWC and its rebuilding, their achievements, and adventures over the last 3 years.	Presentation to be circulated when available
3.0	Environment Act update State of Nature/Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Alan Jemmett/MEAS Natural capital /Biodiversity net gain opportunities. Colm Bowe/Paul Nolan Ministerial LNP Chairs Roundtable. Gideon Ben-Tovim NEIRF – Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund – Alan Jemmett Plus, Any other contributions from partners – ALL <i>AJ presented on Environment Act</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once in a generation opportunity – state of nature report. • Act – starting to move – more integrated approach • Important that we don't just think about nature for nature's sake –but integrated with climate and people, can assist in pathway to net zero. • MEAS proactive in space of BNG. From autumn 10% net gain as a minimum – local nature recovering strategy – reporting – are we reverting the decline? 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already planning Defra biodiversity metric – identify what could be gained on site / lost on site through development. • Opportunities off site / on site – mandatory – have to be deliverable / auditable. There are practical tensions at city region – people want gains in local area if development / biodiversity credits – retain the value – of credits within the city region – political acceptability. • Hierarchical approach – work for city region and local communities. Can't be done on own – through partnership. Developers / policy makers / local authorities – identify the land where we can deliver biodiversity net gain. • proactive work going on – have tools into new language make it work for us – • financing is key – • legal mechanisms – transitional period of 2 years so key that we really need to get moving on this. • Biodiversity reporting requirement. – quantitative – how are we performing -state of nature report will help in terms of baseline – what is being gained through planning – record keeping – starting from loss / deficit. Challenges - heavily urban • First state of nature report has been prepared for region as a draft – support regional development strategy. Many habitats are in decline. Structured state of nature, around Defra indicators. Data gaps and age provide challenges. 	
4.0	<p>Natural Capital Update. CB provided an update of Natural Capital activities in LCR –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC opportunity mapping • Carbon Sequestration 	Presentation to be circulated when available.
4.0		

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	<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 • "Pathway to Net Zero" (document was circulated prior to meeting) – reasonable amount in Natural Environment – ecological crisis – job within NC – keep the Natural Environment strand in climate action • Community Environment Fund Year 2 • Delighted we have a second year of it – launched in March. • Climate partners – Next phase will be development of action plan (building on 1st year action plan to build action plan for next three years. Will require all of us to help identify specific actions – what practical actions are our stakeholders going to do – next phase of work. 	
5.0	<p>NEIRF</p> <p>AJ provided an update on the proposed NEIRF project which will be led by partners with support from LCR partners</p> <p>“A collaborative approach to transform Land Liabilities into Assets and create a market for biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain in the LCR”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask of NC and Board members. <p>Need letters of support from NC and its respective organisations Letters form land owners and managers as potential sellers e.g. LAs LWT etc Letters of support from potential buyers / investors – e.g. private businesses such as home builders Commitment in principle to provide in kind contributions.</p>	See ask for letters of support

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	All partners were supportive of the project	
3.0	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gideon as Nature Connected Chair attending with Minister Pow – Defra regarding LNPs. • Position as follows - LNP have a crucial role to play in the rolling out of local nature recovery strategy – (meeting of chairs of LNPs) there should be some finance. Should go to CA because they are responsible authority – in principle LNP should have some resource to support the responsible authority to engage with stakeholders etc – we can then look at whether we need a dedicated sub-group. So LNP can do their bit to make all of this happen. 	
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	Any other Business	
8.0	<p>Next Meeting 06/04/2022 2pm via zoom</p>	