

# NATURE CONNECTED



## Liverpool City Region Local Nature Partnership Board Meeting Minutes & Actions

**Date:** Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2023 2-4pm

**Venue:** Via Teams

**Attendees:**

<b>Gideon Ben-Tovim (Chair)</b>	<b>GBT</b>	<b>Nature Connected</b>
Lucy Abram	LA	Natural England
Alan Jemmett	AJ	Environmental Advisory Service
Annie Merry	AM	Faiths for Change
Hannah Branwood	HB	Natural Capital Hub LJMU
George Coombs	GC	Natural England
Laura Drake	LD	Natural England
Nick Thompson	NT	CPRE
Rachel Cripps	RC	Lancaster Wildlife Trust
Richard Scott	RS	National Wildlife Centre and Scouse Flower House
Juliet Staples	JS	Liverpool City Council
Stephen Sykes	SS	CEC Chamber Low Carbon
Susannah Gill	SG	Mersey Forest
Rachel Waggett	RWa	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority
Rachel Wtaker	RWi	LNRS

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## I Welcome / Introductions / Apologies

Apologies from:

Paul Nolan from Mersey Forest;

Caroline Riley and John Sanders from Mersey Rivers Trust;

Adam Briggs from NFU;

Katie Finkill-Coombs from Natural England (colleague Rachel Whitaker to attend instead);

Jeni Brittlebank from Environment Agency (colleague Liam Hurley to attend instead);

Andrew Clark from MEAS;

Jo Holden from Peel L&P;

Don Thompson from Merseyside Environmental Trust;

Alexandra Preugschat from University of Liverpool;

Mark Booth from UUPLC;

Sarah Palgrave-Neath from The Land Trust; and,

Sarah Dewar from NHS Cheshire and Merseyside.

## II Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising – Gideon Ben-Tovim

NT asked about the progress of the management group's discussion on working together in a cohesive way. GBT confirmed the group members and AJ mentioned ongoing initiatives and funding bids for collaboration. LA suggested a website portal for project input, and AJ mentioned activity in the last months and pending funding bids. SG asked about mapping activities at the LNRS and resource updates. GBT thanked everyone.

**Action: Circulate a note on known recent bids and initiatives relevant to Nature Connected.**

## III LCR Climate Partnership Updates – Rachel Waggett

RWa reported completing the Five-Year Climate Action Plan and the need for a 66% carbon reduction in 5 years. She mentioned the transparency in the document and its 80 actions, with monitoring reports to be published quarterly. RWa mentioned the upcoming approval and launch events. AJ inquired about resource allocation, and LA suggested emphasizing biodiversity net gain. GBT highlighted Nature Connected's involvement, and NT questioned the target achievement. RW informed about future updates and funding opportunities.

AM shared details about a filming project and the collaboration with the BBC and RHS for a community garden at RHS Tatton.

**Action- Circulate list of Community Environment Fund projects from last 2 years with area breakdown.**

**Action: LA to email RW changes to natural environment actions.**

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## IV Mersey Forest Plan updates – Susannah Gill

SG discussed the refresh of the Mersey Forest Plan, including a web document and mapping portal showcasing projects and prioritizing future areas. She mentioned aligning the plan with LNRS and net gain. GBT appreciated the integration efforts, and RW emphasized the need for aligned workstreams.

**Action: LA to send SG contacts for the tree action plan.**

## V Other Member Updates – Richard Scott

RS shared horticulture and ecology links, including projects showcasing carbon capture. AM mentioned the filming at the Secret Garden in Liverpool. LA discussed the appointment of a new coastal senior advisor. GC highlighted the crossover between health and nature, as well as plans for integrating nature recovery in the NHS. NT mentioned a lottery project in Manchester and exploring similar initiatives in the Liverpool City Region. AJ discussed the Recreation Mitigation Strategy and the need to improve non-coastal sites. HB mentioned internship opportunities and the development of a green skills hub.

**Date of next meeting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2pm**

## VI AOB

HB informed that they run internship opportunities throughout the academic year, and they are currently looking at setting up a more formalised green skills for green careers hub across the Liverpool city region. She asked that if anyone has ideas for projects or how this idea may work to please send them over.

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## Action Log

## Owner

Circulate a note on known recent bids and initiatives relevant to Nature Connected.	All
Circulate list of Community Environment Fund projects from last 2 years with area breakdown	RW
To email RW changes to action within the natural environment actions.	LA
To send SG contacts for the people involved in the tree action plan.	LA