

# Introduction to the Bracknell Forest Climate Change Biodiversity Working Group

11/12/23

# Who are we?

- ▶ BFC Have created a Joint Climate Action Board to address the issues caused by climate change in the borough, such as the need to achieve net zero
- ▶ There are 9 Working Groups covering all sectors, including Biodiversity.
- ▶ The Working Groups are self-organising and community or sector lead
- ▶ The Biodiversity Working Group consists of organisations, community groups and individuals who work with Nature, for example the Trusts and local environment groups
- ▶ The aim is to focus on climate and biodiversity issues, *finding and implementing solutions*
- ▶ We will also be working in association with the BF Nature Partnership and support the Biodiversity Action Plan

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# Organising the work

- ▶ We are in the process of deciding how to work on the issues. Possibilities include creating sub-groups or themes. We plan to work with other Working Groups where we overlap, for example education, health, town and parish councils
- ▶ Example sub-groups or themes might be:
  - ▶ Water
  - ▶ Parks
  - ▶ Gardens
  - ▶ Woodland
  - ▶ Community Spaces
  - ▶ Businesses

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# Research and Surveys

- ▶ Our work should be Evidence Based
- ▶ We will need to monitor biodiversity and ecology over time to measure the effects of climate change and our interventions
- ▶ Our data will also feed into the BFC “State of Nature” annual audit

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# Listening and Engagement

- ▶ It is **important** to listen to residents and organisations, then engage with them to change behaviour and encourage action.

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# Next Steps

- ▶ Gain more members from across our diverse community
- ▶ Organise the structure of the group and establish partnership working with external organisations
- ▶ Define our Purpose and Terms of Reference
- ▶ Start our research, analysis and goal setting
- ▶ Use this to initiate projects ASAP (First project proposed for 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb '24)

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# Next Meeting

- ▶ Next Biodiversity Working Group Meeting/Workshop:
  - ▶ Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024, 2pm to 4pm - Council Chamber, Time Square

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