

## Local Nature Recovery Plan Working Group 2022/2023 Report for Girton Parish Council Annual Meeting

Local Nature Recovery Plans are long-term (usually 10 year) frameworks developed under the auspices of local councils for identifying priority sites, habitats, and species within a defined geographical area (usually a parish or local council boundary).

Following the inaugural public meeting in May 2022, there was a hiatus in the development of the plan for Girton caused by changes in personnel on the Parish Council.

The Group was reconstituted in the autumn of 2022 with some new members and is now quorate.

The Group has been collating existing data on sites, habitats and species in the village and drawing up maps of priority areas for conservation or with the potential for biodiversity gain. A draft Plan was prepared and presented at an open meeting for the village in March 2023, where participants were canvassed for ideas on priority projects to include in the Plan.

Several projects are now in progress including:

- Site management improvements for the Alice Hibbert-Ware Memorial Garden to showcase wildlife friendly approaches to gardening
- Surveys of priority sites in the village
- Data collection for wildlife groups where existing data on status is poor e.g. invertebrates
- A programme of regular community events for the village
- Providing advice and encouragement for the submission of wildlife sightings in the village
- Supporting species-specific initiatives such as 'hedgehog highways' and nest boxes for Swifts.

The next draft of the Local Nature Recovery Plan is being worked on, building in the suggestions made during the public meeting, the outcome of which will be a strategy for the village over a ten-year period. This will be presented at another public meeting in the Autumn. The plans also need to dovetail with the development of the village Neighbourhood Plan and an initial discussion with Andrew Muston has taken place to ensure the plans are aligned.

The group will continue to engage the village community via a webpage on the village website, a regular column in the Girton Parish News, and postings on social media via the 'Wild\_Girton' Twitter and Facebook pages, as well as the aforementioned community events. An email address, [lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lnrp@girton-pc.gov.uk) set up with the help of the Parish Clerk can be used to contact the group.