

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC PROTECTION

Parks, Green Space and Countryside Stakeholder Panel Agenda

Date and Time: Tuesday 20th of July 2021 19:00 - 21:15.

Location: Online Meeting

1. Welcome and Apologies,
2. Previous minutes – agreement,
3. Review of action log,
4. idverde Update,
5. LBB Update – James Hilsden and Hugh Chapman,
6. Feedback from Stakeholders,
7. AOB,
8. Date of future meeting,

Attendees

London Borough of Bromley (LBB)

- **Peter McCready (PMC)** - Assistant Director of Environment (Chairman),
- **Councillor William Huntington-Thresher (Cllr WHT)** - Portfolio Holder for Environment and Community Services,
- **Councillor William Harmer (Cllr WH)** - Chairman, Environment and Community Services Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee,
- **James Hilsden (JH)** - Neighbourhood Manager & Borough Parks Manager),
- **Hugh Chapman (HC)** – Arboricultural Manager,
- **Paul Mellor (PM)** – Principal Planner,
- **Helen Stickling (HS)** – Business Support Officer (Minute Taker),

idverde

- **Frank Kleinhans (FK)** - Contract Director,
- **John Pemberton (JP)** – Conservation & Education Development Manager,
- **Andrew Hodgson (AH)** – Operations Manager,
- **Amy Rogers (AR)** – Fundraising Manager,

Stakeholders

- **Dr Judith John (JJ)** – Orpington Field Club (OFC),
- **Larry Herbert (LH)** - Friends Forum, Chairman
- **Peter Woodward (PW)** - Chislehurst Commons, Trustee,
- **Clive Chapman (CC)** - Bromley Council Bowling Club Association (BCBCA),
- **Janet Clayton (JC)** - Orpington and District Archaeological Society (ODAS),

Apologies

- **Jamie Fletcher (JF)** - Bromley Biodiversity Partnership (BBP),
- **Clive Randell (CR)** - Chairman of the Leisure Garden and Allotment Federation,

Agenda Items	Owner	Target Date
<p>Welcome and Apologies PMC said that Councillor William Huntington-Thresher (Cllr WHT) would be attending the meeting until 19:25. JJ updated that Ishpi Blatchley (IB) has resigned from the stakeholder panel and Jamie Fletcher will be the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership representative in her place. JJ gave apologies for JF.</p>		
<p>Previous minutes (09/02/2021) PMC asked attendees to raise any issues with the previous minutes with the intention that they could be agreed as an accurate representation of the meeting. JJ said that on page 12, Orpington Field Club should be included in front of her name and the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership. Attendees raised no other issues.</p>		
<p>Action Log Review Attendees reviewed the action update document (dated 06/05/21) which had been circulated prior to the meeting and contained narrative for each action.</p> <p>Action 1 – Planning & Biodiversity – PM said that the Bromley Biodiversity Plan (BBP) 2021-26 is on the LBB Biodiversity webpage along with the Species action plan links.</p> <p>JJ said that there are a couple of small corrections needed on the Bromley Biodiversity Plan document. LH said that in the past, the Bromley Biodiversity Plan has been on the Friends Forum website. LH said that due to JJ saying that corrections are needed, he isn't sure which version should be put on their website. LH questioned if the plan had been officially issued. LH said that the plan hadn't been sent to all the stakeholders and no one had let them know it had been formally issued. LH said that he is a member of the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership.</p> <p>PM said that the Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-26 was adopted by members on the 31st March 2021 so as far as he was concerned, the finalised version was on the website. PM suggested that LH could provide a link to the version on the LBB website. LH said that he wants to be formally informed which version is the correct one. PM said that he informed JJ and IB following the design phase. PM said that he doesn't have the contact details of all the members and thought it worked as an umbrella partnership.</p> <p>JJ said that she can circulate the final version and there aren't lots of correction. LH said that Steven Lofting (RSPB Biodiversity Advisor) has the list of contacts. JJ said that she would email him and ask Steven Lofting to circulate the Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-26.</p> <p>ACTION: JJ to ask Steven Lofting to circulate the final Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-26 to all members of the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership to let them know it had been agreed.</p> <p>Attendees agreed to close the action.</p> <p>Action 2 - RSPB Partnership – JH noted that the RSPB partnership is mentioned in the Open Space Strategy. JH said that the update that was going on the website will be refreshed and published in the autumn 2021. JH suggested that the action be kept open and reviewed in the autumn.</p>	JJ	01/09/21

<p>Action 3 - Terms of Reference (ToR) - PMC discussed the ToR and how he was keen to ensure the role of the stakeholder group was reviewed. PMC said that from the feedback, LBB have organised to keep the occurrences of the stakeholder panel and the Countryside Consultative Panel (CCP) further apart in 3-month intervals.</p> <p>PMC said that he would like to see further discussion on his proposal to potentially merge the stakeholder panel with the Countryside Consultative Panel. PMC said that it can be a slow transition and he doesn't think it will take 2 years. PMC said that his proposal is to close the action but with his intention to work with the CCP on reviewing the meeting scopes.</p> <p>JC said that she is happy with the ToR but she would like to understand as things progress, what's happening with the CCP as the interests she has are heritage focused which may not tie in with the CCP.</p> <p>JC said that action 9 (regarding a strategy forward work plan) is critical for her. PMC said that the forward workplan doesn't exist at the moment, but he intends to fulfil this. JC said that if action 9 is closed then it should be on the basis that a forward work plan is created.</p> <p>JJ asked if the stakeholders would have an opportunity to comment on the ToR. PMC reassured JJ that she hasn't missed an opportunity. PMC said that his aim is to work with the CCP to review their ToR. PMC said that if JJ has comments regarding the ToR then they can be sent to PMC and HS.</p> <p>LH raised a concern that the stakeholder panel has representatives from sports, allotments and bowling and he doesn't understand how they can merge with the CCP without adding additional scope. PMC said that the point is to review the scope of both meetings. LH said that many years ago the Friends Forum were invited to the CCP but haven't been again. LH said that the scope of the stakeholder panel is broad and noted that it includes urban parks and verges. PMC explained that there are 2 panels with similarities and overlap but also a role for each individual group. LH agreed that it should be one meeting however noted that if too many people are involved it will get unwieldy.</p> <p>PMC said that there are no agreed steps currently regarding the merging of the meetings so he is putting the proposal to the group to review and they can formulate a plan with agreement with all stakeholders. PMC said that he doesn't see the point of continuing a meeting with an overlap as he doesn't want to waste attendee's time. PMC said that he will be taking this forward.</p> <p>Action 4 - Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021- the action was closed as the plan was adopted by members on the 31st March 2021.</p> <p>Action 5 - Friends Forum Volunteer Champion – JH read the update from the 6th of May Action Update document. LH said that they identified that they needed a full-time member of staff to manage this Volunteer Champion role. LH said that if the resource ever became available, they would want to do it, as it takes a long time to liaise with all the organisation to see if they have staff. PMC said that there isn't a full-time position that exists for that purpose and the resources aren't available at this stage, but they will keep it in mind. Action closed.</p> <p>Action 6 - Website Content – JH read the update from the 6th of May Action Update document. Action closed.</p> <p>Action 7 - Open Space Strategy – PMC discussed that the receipt of the feedback on the first draft has required quite a large effort to review and LBBs</p>		
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<p>aim is to align the redrafted strategy with stakeholder feedback. PMC said that since the feedback, LBB have been internally reviewing the strategy and been consulting with idverde with respect to producing a redraft of the strategy. PMC said that in the coming weeks LBB will finish redrafting internally and then will conduct engagement sessions with stakeholders to obtain feedback on the redraft. PMC said that the aim is to take the redraft to the Environment and Community Services PDS committee meeting in November 2021. PMC said that the action should be left open.</p> <p>LH said that his understanding was that the people who are being engaged would be redrafting the strategy, rather than LBB formulating the draft. PMC said that there is no reason to say the strategy can't be redrafted further and that LBB have been progressing the redraft to take into account the feedback. PMC said that he thinks stakeholders will find the engagement sessions are productive. PMC said that LBB hope it will be a much more productive way of achieving the goal.</p> <p>JJ asked whether stakeholders would have the opportunity to comment on the redraft to which PMC said absolutely. PMC said that LBB will issue the redraft and give the stakeholder members an opportunity to digest it. PMC said that the engagement sessions will be virtual online meetings. PMC said that the plan is for the sessions to take place in August and September time.</p> <p>JC said that she wanted to ask what the arrangements are for the engagement sessions and she thinks it's a good idea to hold them virtually as this will save on travelling time. JC said that the Open Space Strategy contained some specific ideas about Scadbury which are important to have reviewed. JC asked whether there will be a specific engagement session on Scadbury. PMC said that that discussion can be raised at those meetings.</p> <p>LH said that he would like it recorded that he is very disappointed by the way this has gone forward, as it is totally against the expectations that he had.</p> <p>JJ requested that the redraft is circulated a couple of weeks before the engagement sessions to allow the stakeholders enough time to review it.</p> <p>PW asked who will be attending the engagement sessions and asked whether it will be an open invitation or very focused. PMC said that the current plan is to host a series of meetings where LBB will invite representative groups who may want to invite further people to attend. PMC said that it might be that not all stakeholders are attending one meeting. PMC said that it's a question of how many people want to attend. PMC said that it's fair to say, that the engagement sessions could manifest into a talking shop but LBB want to direct the sessions so they can be as productive as possible.</p> <p>Action to be left open.</p> <p>Action 8 - Tree Management Strategy – HC said that at the previous meeting, he discussed potentially completing a full redraft of the current Tree Management Strategy however the direction has changed. HC said that the plan is now to retain the current document as the core document, as it is of a high quality and still very relevant. HC said that LBB are planning to create a series of addendums. HC said that these may be released once per year individually or in little bundles. HC said that they could do some stakeholder engagement sessions as well if they are successful. HC said that he is looking to enhance the tree planting elements of the strategy and expand on the pest and disease strategy to deal with things like ash dieback.</p>		
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<p>JC said that she has never seen the current Tree Management Strategy. HC said that it is on the Bromley website.</p> <p>Bromley Tree Management Strategy 2016-2020</p> <p>JC said that she is aware that there has been some reference to planting additional trees in Scadbury but she is not sure how it's being taken forward. JC raised a concern of whether there is a full, up to date understanding of the overall ecological position in Scadbury.</p> <p>HC said that this is a great point and thanked JC for raising her comments. HC said that the LBB ethos is to plant the right tree, in the right place. HC reassured JC that if planting were to be properly considered for Scadbury, LBB would work with the Friends group to make the most of their local knowledge. JC said that she wasn't sure how much knowledge they would have about the historic features in the park as this was more a matter for ODAS than for the Friends, and she would like to be a direct contact. HC explained that when he said Friends group, he also meant JC and LBB would of course engage with her. JC said that is fine. Action was closed.</p> <p>Action 9 - Strategies – PMC said that in regards to future strategies, he aims to work as a conduit and inform stakeholders of upcoming strategies when he is aware.</p> <p>JC said thank you for the assurance and that she thinks a forward workplan for the stakeholders would be good. JC said that she would like to see the Open Space Strategy and Tree Management strategy consultancy plans on the forward plan.</p> <p>JC said that the Regeneration Strategy and the Open Space Strategy included items about Scadbury. JC noted that the Regeneration Strategy was adopted, and she doesn't know if there is work which has been passed to PMC. PMC said that he hasn't been sent work from the Regeneration team. PMC said that in future, the aim is for them to have better awareness.</p> <p>FK noted that there was a couple of regeneration initiatives that were included in the Open Space Strategy which was to make sure there was a golden thread throughout the strategies.</p> <p>JC said that it sounds like she needs to engage with the LBB Regeneration team. PMC agreed that he thinks it would be worth JC revisiting it with them. JC said that she is sure PMC and idverde would also like to know how this is being addressed as it would have huge implications on works they are doing.</p> <p>PMC said that he thinks the action can be closed and that Scadbury can be taken outside of the meeting. JC said that she is anxious to see how all the strategies fit together. Action closed.</p> <p>Action 10 - Orpington Excelsior water leak – JH read the update from the 6th of May Action Update document. CC said he is happy with what JH said. CC said that it's a long-standing water leak. CC said that what was completed wouldn't have solved a water leak. CC said that the utilities manager should monitor the water usage as he would hate to think they would receive a large bill in a couple of years. JH said that he will take this up with the utilities manager to make sure he is monitoring.</p> <p>ACTION: Orpington Excelsior water leak – JH to inform the utilities manager to monitor the water usage.</p>		
	JH	01/09/21

<p>Action 11 - Pesticides and Lot 4 – JH read the update from the 6th of May Action Update document. JJ requested that it is pleased given ongoing consideration continually as the use of pesticides is a major problem for biodiversity and soil. JJ gave the example that if the soil doesn't contain micro-organisms tunnelling, then water retention and urban cooling is also affected.</p> <p>PMC proposed that idverde provide an update. JH said that FK sent him some information on how much foam spraying idverde are doing. JH said that in many places, idverde are hand weeding. JH said that it's an exercise to properly document the steps idverde are taking. JJ said that she is glad to hear about the hand weeding. Action closed.</p> <p>ACTION: Pesticides and Lot 4 - idverde to provide a written update for the stakeholders, on the steps they have taken to reduce the use of pesticides, for example hand weeding.</p> <p>Action 12 - Unmown Verges – PMC said that work is in hand to assess the sites put forward to confirm the trial for next year. JH said that JP has started a mammoth task of ensuring this is conducted methodically and systematically. JH said that JP is reviewing potential sites and using idverde's knowledge to understand what will work well in what areas. JH said that they have been reviewing previous complaints for helpful information and are considering which areas public education may be needed and the cost implications of signage. JJ said that she has been surveying some of the verges put forward and she will send an update. JH asked that JJ please direct this to JP.</p> <p>PW said that on Chislehurst Commons they have been conducting a pilot study and stopped mowing in some areas this year. PW said that they have been managing sight lines and that they installed 15 signs on all the verges which didn't cost them anything to create. PW said that it is a live experiment and are happy to share information about what they have found.</p> <p>PW said that JJ visited Chislehurst Commons to look at how they can conduct some baseline surveys to see what changes have occurred. PW said that they anticipated a major problem at the end of season in regards to clearing the cut grass and that it will take 8 of the volunteer sessions.</p> <p>JP said that he would be in touch with PW. PW said that they have received lots of positive comments. PW said that they are aware of a couple individuals who think it's a bit untidy, but no one has objected. PW suggested that if the Council inform people that it is an experimental trial then it may be more likely to become accepted. PW said that the trial has had a knock-on effect as they have noticed several residents aren't cutting their grass.</p> <p>The action was closed.</p>	FK	01/10/21
<p>idverde Update</p> <p>Funding Initiatives</p> <p>Scadbury Moated Manor – AR said that they are looking to carry out some significant repair works on the moated manor in autumn 2021. AR said that as part of this they have submitted a Heritage at Risk grant application for £100,000. AR said thank you to ODAS.</p> <p>Cycle Track at Hobblingwell – AR said that they are moving through the tender process and planning permission is being considered at the Plans Sub-</p>		

<p>Committee on Thursday 22/07/2021. AR said that assuming everything goes to plan then installation will begin this year and be completed by Christmas time.</p> <p>Bandstand Croydon Road Recreation Ground – AR reported that they are in the process of procuring a Conservation Architect who will help draw up all the plans to go to tender for the repair of the bandstand.</p> <p>JC said that she was delighted to know that the conservation work is moving ahead and is very aware of all the work AR has done which is appreciated. JC said that the actual process for doing this and the process for managing the fencing work at Scadbury Moated Manor (which is now in place and is reducing incidences of vandalism) has been very difficult. JC said that she is concerned about the capacity of idverde and LBB to be able to support some of these complex projects. JC noted that she does understand the resourcing issues and the extra pressure Covid-19 and furloughs have had on Officer’s time.</p> <p>PMC said thank you to JC for her feedback. PMC agreed that there is resource pressure on staff and noted that they are particularly complex projects. PMC said that he has added some project management support in that area and that Mark Anderson (LBB Strategic Commissioner) is working with AR as the linchpin on Bromley’s side.</p> <p>FK said that in addition, within the fundraising team, idverde have employed an additional Fundraiser. FK said that they had a sporadic fundraiser position however they didn’t always see the apprenticeship through so this brought its own challenges.</p> <p>JC said thank you and she appreciates this. JC said she is glad they recognise the pressure of these projects and is grateful for the work being done. AR thanked JC for her input which they value.</p> <p>Education – JP said that up until this week, they have been working under restricted conditions from Covid-19 however from Monday they will be operating normally. JP said that the summer holiday programme is open for bookings and it will be close to normal provision.</p> <p>Countryside and Community – JP mentioned delivering some courses for the Friends Forum. JP said that people have taken advantage of the online delivery. JP said that they have run 4 courses with combined attendance of 58 individuals. JP mentioned a series of hedgehog training courses for those areas that they will be of high value.</p> <p>JP said that it has been a tough year weather wise from an ecology perspective and for nesting and songbirds although a good year for butterflies and orchids. JP said that hedgehogs have been found at High Elms for first time in a long time.</p> <p>JP said that they have started to put more signage up around naturalised grass areas in parks as sites were starting to get complaints about grass being uncut. JP said that they will probably take the signs down temporarily when the grass is cut.</p> <p>Brilliant Butterflies – JP discussed planning delays. JP said that the installation of chalk banks at Leaves Green has only just been given the go ahead so will happen in August to September. JP said that they are planning this around when they can scatter the seeds and that it is too hot to do so now.</p>		
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<p>Leaves Green – JP said that it looks fantastic with the paths mown through. JP mentioned a London Wildlife Trust event at High Elms on the 31st of July.</p> <p>Staff Structure - FK said that idverde made a new appointment to the team, Andy Simpson (Parks Development Manager). FK said that some staff members had returned from maternity leave - Helen Cassidy (BEECHE Manager) and Jessica Rice (Events Administrator). FK said that he would send HS the updated idverde staff structure to circulate with the minutes.</p>		
<p>LBB update</p> <p><u>Parks Management and Grounds Maintenance (Lot 4) Update</u> JH said that the Neighbourhood Officers have been operating business as usual since March 2020. JH said that client inspections have continued and idverde have been performing well.</p> <p>JH said that in regards to grass cutting there have been a few blips in the east of the borough due to the wet weather. JH said that the Neighbourhood Officers have done refresher training sessions and mental health training sessions.</p> <p>JH said that the Enforcement Manager, Toby Smith, has retired who had been with the Council for 20 years. JH said that the parks security service is being managed by the Parks Management team to resolve in the interim. JH said that this includes encampments which have been dealt with promptly but asked stakeholders to bear with them during this time of transition.</p> <p>JH mentioned wildflowers at Green Street Green and that signs are being installed. JH also mentioned that there are a few infrastructure items that have been long outstanding that they have been able to find funds for.</p> <p><u>Arboricultural Services (Lot 5) Update</u> HC said that it is currently the service’s busiest season with enquiries and tree surveying. HC said that they continue to monitor the performance of the Service Provider Glendale. HC said that they had accrued a backlog of works which is decreasing.</p> <p>HC gave his apologies to CC due to a tree outstanding at the bowling green. HC said that this will be getting done on Monday the 26th of July. CC said thank you.</p> <p>HC said that there is an upcoming tree planting project in the borough which will mainly focused on street trees but will have knock-on positive effects in parks. HC said that the project goal is to plant 5000 additional street trees and will involve a new contractor who are specifically trained to plant trees and uphold adequate young tree maintenance practises to achieve better survival rates.</p> <p>Woodland Establishment Project – HC said that he has also been working with the LBB Carbon Management Team (CMT) in a project to establish some new woodlands. HC said that the project board have been working to identify suitable sites and will be conducting ecological studies with the RSPB to ensure that there won’t be any unforeseen effects from an ecological perspective.</p> <p>JJ asked HC for an update on the prosecution for woodland fells at Cudham Lane. HC said that he would investigate and let her know.</p> <p>ACTION: HC to investigate and update JJ regarding the Cudham Lane prosecution.</p>	<p>HC</p>	<p>20/10/21</p>

<p>Ash Dieback - PW said that the Chislehurst Commons trustees have produced 2-3 documents on the cost of ash dieback to the them. PW said that attendees might be interested to see what they are doing and noted that they are quite concerned about the cost. PW noted that some of the ash trees will have to be felled in the next few years. PW said that some of the trees don't fall under their felling licence and they would have to go to Planning.</p> <p>PW noted that LBB were working on some of Chislehurst Common's trees, but they were stopped. HC said that he had been in dialogue with Patrick Phillips (former idverde employee) who fed into the ash dieback plan and HC provided him with LBB's policy. HC said that it is important to consider retaining trees wherever possible, for instance in woodlands with no targets. PW noted that the site is crossed with roads and is close to a war memorial. HC said that with mature trees the condition is quite likely to become a chronic condition. HC said that there is some evidence of more mature trees bouncing back in Sweden (who are a lot further down the road with the issue). HC said that there have been reports of trees recovering after being close to the brink of death. HC said that if trees are maintained then it needs to be carefully documented and observed carefully. HC said the way that the ash trees will survive is maintaining the individuals that are resistant to the disease and who can go on to share this resistance with their offspring.</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>The London Plan - PM said that LBB are continuing to see an increase in planning applications supported by good information on urban greening and that are demonstrating biodiversity net gain using the Defra Metric. PM said that LBB are in the process of documenting and drafting spreadsheets identifying where there is net gain in biodiversity. PM said that it is early days as the London Plan was only introduced at the beginning of March (which introduced several green policies that need to be aligned with).</p>		
<p><u>Bromley Council Bowling Club Association (BCBCA) - (Clive Chapman)</u></p> <p>CC said that the members are back to bowling but are still advised to wear masks indoors. CC said that he appreciated the information from HC regarding the tree.</p> <p>CC said that he wasn't aware Simon Howchin (Projects and Playground Assistant) had left idverde. CC said that many of the clubs have had property issues outstanding for years and that issues get passed to Amey but nothing happens. CC questioned how the property aspect is being managed now. CC said that they report things, and nothing comes back.</p> <p>PMC said that the property management contract had been externalised but will be brought back in house from October and will be managed by LBB. PMC said that Matt Wyatt (LBB Head of FM and Capital Projects) is head of service for property.</p> <p>ACTION: PMC to send update to stakeholders regarding the Amey Property Contract being brought in house and provide contact details for Property issues.</p>	PMC	20/10/21
<p><u>Orpington Field Club (OFC) and the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership (BBP) - (Dr Judith John)</u></p> <p>Grassland - JJ reported that the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership is promoting the management of more grassland for biodiversity. JJ said that grassland posters were produced promoting native grassland for wildlife under the title</p>		

<p>'Say No to The Mow' to link to Plantlife's campaign of the same name and are available from the Friends Forum website. JJ said that members of the Biodiversity Partnership sub-group can supply articles or talks to anyone interested in becoming involved in improving grassland for biodiversity. JJ said that it's an important matter and they would like to help.</p> <p>Planning Matters - JJ said that PM has sent various planning issues to them for their consultation.</p> <p>Citizen Science - JJ said that hedgehog and toad recording continues however there are some areas from where they received very few records (Beckenham, Langley Park, Eden Park, Elmers End, the Bethlem Hospital area, Sundridge, Downham, Penge, St. Paul's Cray, St. Mary Cray and Biggin Hill). JJ said that it is possible that there are no hedgehogs or toads in these areas, but in some places, it is likely that they have not managed to publicise the surveys well enough.</p> <p>JJ said that if any of the attendees live locally it would be great if they could highlight the surveys. JJ said that knowing where these animals are helps target appropriate management for them.</p> <p>JJ said that they are also asking residents to send any records of White Admiral and Purple Emperor Butterflies to them this summer. JJ said that all records are shared with idverde and other Bromley Biodiversity Partnership members and sent to GiGL (Greenspace Information for Greater London). JJ said that reports will be sent to participants and be available from the Friends Forum website in January 2022.</p> <p>Swifts – JJ said that Bromley Local RSPB group's swift survey has resumed in 2021. JJ said that 3 swift boxes have recently been installed on the side of St Mark's Primary School, Bromley. JJ said that this is a promising location based on the swift surveys in 2018 and 2019, and again this year, have recorded swifts in the vicinity of the school.</p> <p>JJ said that a peregrine falcon raised 4 chicks in the Bromley area which are now ringed. JJ said that a Cuckoo was heard from Viewlands Avenue in Biggin Hill.</p> <p>Wildlife and Countryside Act – JJ said that a letter has been sent to all LBB MPs regarding concerns about changes to the status of many UK species as a result of the 7th Quinquennial Review (QQR) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedules 5 and 8 which is being coordinated by the UK Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). JJ said that the 2021 review seeks to change the eligibility criteria for which species will be included on Schedules 5 and 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act so that an animal or plant species will only be protected by these schedules when it is endangered or critically endangered (as defined in the IUCN red listing process), or identified as European Protected Species. JJ said that this means that some animals and plants currently listed will no longer be protected until it is too late or almost too late to prevent extinction.</p> <p>South Hill Woods – JJ said that the Friends of South Hill Woods have been asking for the repair of railings around Kingswood Glen where there are ponds on both sides of a footpath used daily by children from Highfield Junior School which is surely a health & safety risk. JJ said that idverde have been supportive as far as they can be, but this is an issue for LBB property. JJ said that if anyone can help resolve this issue then this would be very welcome.</p>		
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<p>JH said that there has been developments in the last 3-4 weeks and LBB have raised an order for it and have resourced funds for it. JH said that they have had a lead time due to materials but the go ahead has been given and should be addressed in the coming weeks. JJ said thank you and that she would inform the Friends group.</p>		
<p><u>Orpington and District Archaeological Society (ODAS) – (Janet Clayton (JC))</u></p> <p>JC said that as a result of the installation of the fencing at Scadbury Moated Manor, it provided an opportunity for archaeological work. JC said that the finds were extremely interesting and will provide information on how the moat has evolved over time. JC said that they will produce a report on this.</p> <p>JC said that digging at Scadbury was suspended over the pandemic at points but has resumed. JC said that they are hoping to hold the Open Weekend in September in a socially distanced way as this worked well the previous year.</p> <p>JC said that on the conservation side, discussions began in 2014 and it will be great if they can get things done this year. JC said that they do need to know when that might be so they can be ready to do whatever they need to do.</p> <p>JC emphasised that it is important for them to know about future strategies. PMC said that he will inform the stakeholders of the relevant strategies and can only apologise on behalf of LBB that JC wasn't kept in the loop.</p> <p>JC said that it will be helpful to know what the new arrangements are for Property.</p>		
<p><u>Friends Forum - (Larry Herbert)</u></p> <p>Annual General Meeting (AGM) - LH said that the Friends Forum is concerned about communications from LBB. LH said that they had an annual general meeting (AGM) in May and the representation from the Council was negligible. LH said that no Neighbourhood Officers or Councillors attended and neither did PMC. LH said that the meeting on Zoom fizzled out to nothing and there was no Question and Answers segment. LH said that JH promised a written report for those not at the meeting would be circulated however this hasn't happened. LH said that JH was awaiting finalised Covid figures before issuing his report and this had contributed to the delay. It was understood in June that these had now been finalised, but nothing so far has materialised.</p> <p>Partnership Statement – LH said that he has been waiting for the partnership statement (between the Friends Forum, LBB and idverde) to be agreed for 2 years. LH said that the Friends Forum are not prepared to wait continuously, and it is time for LBB to honour this document and publish it. LH said that he doesn't think the Friends Forum will get involved in any further work if the issue is not resolved. LH said that he wanted a response by the next day.</p> <p>Grant money - LH said that the Portfolio Holder had raised concerns that grants that the Forum want to offer to the Friends Groups, to improve things in their parks, would interfere with AR's arrangements. LH had informed the Portfolio Holder that these grants had been in operation now for a number of years and by their nature were limited to a maximum of £300. These had no bearing on the fundraising team and a response from Council is awaited.</p>		

<p>LH said that he would like to thank idverde regarding a basic tool request. LH said that he sent some comments and has heard nothing back since.</p> <p>LH said that in regard to the Bromley Biodiversity Plan he knew nothing about it, and he can't constantly be left in the dark or he will walk away as he can't do a good job for his members.</p> <p>PMC thanked LH for his comments and noted that there were items that needed addressing. PMC noted LH comments about lack of attendance at the AGM. PMC said that he will contact LH shortly regarding the Partnership Statement and LH will receive the AGM report. PMC said that he will discuss the funding with Councillor Huntington-Thresher, and he apologised for the delay. LH said that he doesn't consider the bodies to be working in partnership.</p> <p>ACTION: PMC to send the Friends Forum Partnership Statement to LH.</p> <p>ACTION: PMC or JH to send the Friends Forum May 2021 AGM report which LH requested.</p> <p>ACTION: PMC to remind Councillor Huntington-Thresher to respond to LH regarding the Friends Forum funding.</p>	<p>PMC</p> <p>PMC/JH</p> <p>PMC</p>	<p>01/09/21</p> <p>01/09/21</p> <p>01/09/21</p>
<p>AOB</p> <p>GiGL – PW said that they would like to receive data from Greenspace information for Greater London (GiGL) as all their surveys end up there. PW said that he is aware that Bromley have a contract with GiGL to provide data for the Planning department. PW asked if there is any way in which the stakeholders can access the data from GiGL.</p> <p>ACTION: GiGL - Per PW's request, PM to let PW know if it is possible for the stakeholders to access data from Greenspace information for Greater London (GiGL) through the Council's subscription.</p> <p>PW said thank you to PMC for chairing the meeting and that he finds them incredibly interesting and useful.</p> <p>JH said that he heard from AR that JC hasn't been well; JH said that JC was missed and there was a gap they couldn't fill. JH gave his best wishes to her.</p> <p>JH said thank you to JP for helping with the mental health awareness sessions which involved highlighting the benefits of biodiversity.</p>	<p>PM</p>	<p>01/10/21</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>HS said that there is no current meeting date set however they usually hold a meeting every 6 months. HS said that she will circulate some date options to the attendees for January time.</p> <p>PMC said that LBB will send the Action Log Update report in 3 months' time. PMC apologised as the meeting was longer than planned for and finished at 21:15. PMC said that he hoped the attendees found the meeting useful and thanked HS for organising and minuting the meeting.</p>		

Action Log

Meeting:	Parks, Green Space and Countryside Stakeholder Panel
Date Reviewed:	20/07/2021

Action ID	Status	Date Raised	Raised By	Action Description	Owner	Due Date	Date Closed	Comments
1.	Closed			Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-2026 - PMC to add the Bromley Biodiversity Plan to the Development Control and the Environment and Community Services (E&CS) PDS committee agendas.	Peter McCreedy (PMC)	11/03/20	20/07/21	<p>21/01/2021: HS circulated the draft Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-2026 to the stakeholders on 29/09/2020.</p> <p>09/02/2021: PM said that it is on the foreword plan for the Environment & Public Protection PDS in March 2021 and it doesn't need to go to the DC committee.</p> <p>06/05/2021: PM updated that the Biodiversity Plan was adopted by Members at Executive Committee on 31st March 2021 following Environment PDS Committee on the 11th of March 2021. The document is currently going through design prior to publication.</p> <p>Members of the Executive committee acknowledged the contributions of the stakeholders in drafting of the document and fully supported the implementation of the BBP.</p> <p>Proposal to close action at the next meeting.</p> <p>20/07/21: Action was closed. LH said that he could put a link to the plan on the Friends Forum website but wasn't sure of the correct version. Action 13 was created.</p>

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2.	Open			RSPB Partnership - JH to review the news article that idverde drafted and get the article published.	James Hilsden (JH)	11/03/20 01/11/21		<p>06/01/2020: The article was updated and reviewed. JH reported that this was included in the Open Space Strategy and idverde's volunteering partnership newsletter. JH said that he is progressing adding it to the LBB website.</p> <p>06/05/2021: Provisional date of publication Friday the 28th of May 2021.</p> <p>20/07/21: JH said that it needs reviewing and said that it would be published in autumn time 2021.</p>
3.	Closed			Terms of Reference (ToR) - Attendees to provide their comments regarding the content of the Panels Terms of Reference and the future vision of the group to Peter McCready and Helen Stickling.	All	11/03/20 01/09/21	20/07/21	<p>Peter Woodward, Ishpi Blatchley and Judy John have provided feedback which was sent to Peter McCready.</p> <p>Stakeholders to provide feedback. As of 20/01/2021 there has been no further feedback from stakeholders.</p> <p>PMC PROPOSAL: The stakeholder panel to continue for another 2 years to allow for the transition to the new environmental services contract with idverde and to consider the potential merging with the Countryside Consultative Panel (CCP).</p> <p>06/05/2021: LH provided feedback on 09/03/2021. LBB reviewed feedback provided by stakeholders, amended the ToR and are circulating this to stakeholders as the final</p>

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								<p>version for approval. Comments from stakeholders to be provided before the next meeting.</p> <p>Proposal to close action at the next meeting.</p> <p>20/07/21: Attendees discussed the proposal to merge the stakeholder meeting with the CCP. PMC welcomed stakeholder feedback. PMC said that in the future his plan is to review the scope of the two meetings with the aim to merge them. Action was closed.</p> <p>30/07/21: JJ sent ToR suggestions by email. To be reviewed by LBB.</p>
4.	Closed			Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-2026: Cllr HT and James Hilsden to liaise to provide a foreword to JJ for the updated Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2020.	(Cllr WHT)	11/03/20	20/07/21	<p>06/01/2021: Paul Mellor drafted the foreword which Cllr HT has been asked to review and approve. HS sent this to Cllr HT to review on 07/01/2021.</p> <p>06/05/2021: Note: this item is in reference to ID Action 1. The BBP document is currently going through the design process prior to publication and will include a foreword from the Cllr WHT.</p> <p>20/07/21: Action was closed as the plan was adopted by members on the 31st March 2021.</p>
5.	Closed	09/02/21		Friends Forum Volunteer Champion – JH and idverde to liaise	JH	01/09/21	20/07/21	09/02/21 - JH said that at the time they had discussed options for the Friends Forum to

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				regarding the options for a Friends Forum Volunteer Champion.				<p>increase interest from younger people. JH said that they had subsequent discussions and it was agreed that it needed to be a collaborative effort. JH said that this is something himself and idverde would take forward and the community side as well.</p> <p>06/05/2021: Following consultation with the Friends Forum in 2018, a role description for a potential volunteer champion (s) was drafted however it was agreed by the Forum Chair that upon reflection there was no need for the process.</p> <p>By way of further update, we have seen a steady increase in the number of Friends Groups over the last two years. Bromley will provide advice on supporting this initiative if the Friends Forum determines any further need.</p> <p>Proposal to close action at the next meeting.</p> <p>20/07/21: Action was closed.</p>
6.	Closed	09/02/21		Website Content – Stakeholders website feedback to be considered when the website update recommences (which is currently on-hold due to the responsible officer being seconded to Covid-19 programmes of work).	JH	01/09/21	20/07/21	<p>09/02/21 - HS said that the staff member undertaking the website update has been seconded to Covid-19 programmes of work and will be recommencing the website update when time permits.</p> <p>06/05/2021: The website review has recommenced, and stakeholder's feedback</p>

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				LH, CC, JJ and IB provided feedback.				has been incorporated into the updated suggestions for the website which have been submitted to Bromley Knowledge for review and updating. Proposal to close action at the next meeting. 20/07/21: Action was closed.
7.	Open	09/02/21	LH	Open Space Strategy - LBB/idverde to organise working groups with the stakeholders to review the open space strategy before it is given back to idverde to redraft.	PMC / FK	April-May 2021		06/05/2021: Following the Friends AGM in May. Arrangements will be made for engagement sessions to take place with the respective stakeholder groups and further details will be provided after the AGM meeting. The stakeholder engagement sessions will be held online. 20/07/21: Attendees asked questions regarding the stakeholder engagement sessions. PMC said that a redraft would be circulated by LBB and the engagement sessions would take place around August to September time.
8.	Open	09/02/21		Tree Management Strategy - HC to prepare the Tree Management Strategy and consider consultation process.	HC	01/09/21		06/05/2021: HC reported the drafting of the strategy is in progress and will engage with key stakeholders in due course with the view to taking the strategy to Environment PDS later in the year. 20/07/21: HC said that the plan now is to retain the current document as the core document and create a series of addendums. HC said

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								that these may be released once per year individually or in little bundles. HC said that they could do some stakeholder engagement sessions potentially.
9.	Closed	09/02/21	JC	Strategies - PMC/JH to consider a process of how stakeholders could be notified about upcoming strategies that are being drafted and that require their feedback, so they are prepared. PMC to be aware that this may involve liaising with colleagues from different departments. Cllr HT suggested a forward work plan for the stakeholder panel.	PMC / JH	01/09/21	20/07/21	<p>06/05/2021: When Environment and Public Protection department are notified of any new strategies, they will ensure stakeholders are made aware and a forward workplan is formulated for the stakeholder panel.</p> <p>LBB have highlighted current relevant strategies and will identify dates when they are expected to be reviewed and inform the stakeholder panel accordingly.</p> <p>Proposal to close action at the next meeting.</p> <p>20/07/21: JC said that she thinks the forward plan is a good idea and would like that to be created.</p>
10.	Closed	09/02/21	CC	Orpington Excelsior water leak - JH to liaise with Property colleagues and respond to Clive Chapman regarding the resolution of the water leak at Orpington Excelsior.	JH	ASAP	20/07/21	<p>06/05/2021: The utilities company have been informed of the correct consumer and invoices have been adjusted accordingly by LBB's Utilities Manager. LBB's Property Department have confirmed that the water leak issue has been resolved.</p> <p>Proposal to close action at the next meeting.</p> <p>20/07/21: Action was closed. Action 14 was created in relation.</p>

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11.	Closed	09/02/21	JJ	Pesticides and Lot 4 - JH and FK to discuss the potential of a CCN to the Lot 4 contract as proposed by Dr Judy John – “the draft Bromley Biodiversity Plan is asking for use of pesticides (including herbicides and fungicides) only in exceptional circumstances, for example, Japanese knotweed control”.	JH / FK	01/09/21	20/07/21	<p>06/05/2021: The commencement of the new contract included foam spray within parks and green spaces as an environmentally friendly alternative to the use of chemicals.</p> <p>Ongoing consideration will be undertaken to examine ways in which the council can reduce the use of pesticides to achieve increased sustainability where economically and environmentally possible.</p> <p>Proposal to close action at the next meeting.</p> <p>20/07/21: JJ requested that this topic be kept under continual consideration. JH discussed the actions idverde have taken to reduce the use of pesticides such as hand-weeding. Action was closed. Action 15 was created in relation.</p>
12.	Open	09/02/21	JJ	Unmown Verges - JH and FK to discuss the potential of not mowing certain verges in the borough in 2021 as raised by Dr Judith John who sent a document outlining potential verges.	JH / FK	01/09/21		<p>06/05/2021: Following the receipt of the list of proposed verges, further analysis and surveying will be undertaken during 2021 to determine a proposed list for a trial of pollinator verges in 2022; to be agreed by the Environment Portfolio Holder in the autumn of 2021. Currently the Council are undertaking further trials of this approach through a project called Brilliant Butterflies during 2021 (please see link below).</p> <p>Brilliant Butterflies in Bromley</p>

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								20/07/2021: JH said that JP is conducting work to prepare for the trial in 2022. JJ said that she has conducted site surveys and will provide an update to JP. PW said that Chislehurst Commons have conducted an experiment in not mowing the grass and may be able to provide helpful information.
13.	Open	20/07/21	LH	Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-2026 – JJ to ask Steven Lofting to circulate the final Bromley Biodiversity Plan 2021-26 to all members of the Bromley Biodiversity Partnership.	JJ	01/10/21		20/07/2021: LH said that he could put a link to the plan on the Friends Forum website but wasn't sure of the correct version.
14.	Open	20/07/21	CC	Orpington Excelsior water leak – JH to inform the utilities manager to monitor the water usage. CC raised a concern that the water leak may not have been fixed. Monitoring for excessive usage could save both water waste and costs to the Council in the future.	JH	01/09/21		
15.	Open	20/07/21	JH / JJ	Pesticides and Lot 4 - idverde to provide a written update for the stakeholders, on the steps they have taken to reduce the use of pesticides, for example hand weeding.	FK	01/10/21		

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16.	Open	20/07/21	JJ	Cudham Lane - HC to investigate and update JJ regarding the Cudham Lane prosecution.	HC	20/10/21		
17.	Open	20/07/21	CC	Property - PMC to send update to stakeholders regarding the Amey Property Contract being brought in house and provide contact details for Property issues.	PMC	20/10/21		
18.	Open	20/07/21	LH	PMC to send the Friends Forum Partnership Statement to LH.	PMC	01/09/21		
19.	Open	20/07/21	LH	AGM Report - PMC or JH to send the Friends Forum May 2021 AGM report which LH requested.	PMC / JH	01/09/21		
20.	Open	20/07/21	LH	PMC to remind Councillor Huntington-Thresher to respond to LH regarding the Friends Forum funding.	PMC	01/09/21		
21.	Open	20/07/21	PW	Greenspace information for Greater London (GiGL) - Per PW's request, PM to let PW know if it is possible for the stakeholders to access data from Greenspace information for Greater London (GiGL) through the Council's subscription.	PM	01/10/21		

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22.	Open	20/07/21	JC	<p>Scadbury Park - JC to contact the Regeneration Team about the Regeneration Strategy implementation in relation to Scadbury Park.</p> <p>PMC to confirm to JC how the Open Space Strategy objectives for Scadbury Park will be taken forward.</p>	JC and PMC	01/11/21		