



Selby Town Council Nature Recovery Action Plan 2024- 2030

Selby Town Council has recognised the importance of taking steps to address the ecological crisis our world is facing. This Nature Recovery Action Plan has been drawn up in order for us to take the necessary steps to stop the decline of biodiversity and to assist the council in achieving their aim of reaching Net Zero by 2030.



Proposed 6 Year Programme

It is proposed that the first year will be concentrating on communicating the councils intentions to the community, identifying projects and securing funding. The work programme will be developed from the information gathered and funding secured during this time.

During this first year a Nature Recovery page will be set up on the councils website which will set out the councils aims and objectives, provide information and updates.

Year 2 onwards we will be focusing on delivering the councils plan through the workplan and will continue to provide updates to the community and sponsors. Projects identified at a future date will be considered and funding approved before adding to the work programme.

The programme will be a guide. Resources will change over time and projects may need to extend into future years or be brought forward.

Project

Project	Actions	Benefits
Tree Planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify gaps for trees on Town Council owned land • Set up a sponsor a tree programme • Purchase trees to go on school properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low to high costs • Increased biodiversity • Reduce air pollution • Sequester carbon • Reduce noise pollution • Increased nesting habitat • Can be a source of free food for people • Mental health benefits • Increased flood resilience • Increased climate change resilience • Improved resilience of nature
Nesting birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install nest boxes on all Town Council properties where suitable • Purchase nest boxes to go on school properties • Add links to website on how to make nest boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost • Increased biodiversity • Mental health benefits • Improved resilience of nature • Great engagement for families with nature
Grassland management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change some of the amenity mown grass to longer grass, only cut once a year – identify areas • Plant up areas with wildflowers and cut and collect once a year • Plant flowering lawns where grass needs to remain short for amenity use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium cost or reduced cost through reduced mowing • Increased biodiversity • Carbon sequestration • New habitat for insects • Food source for insects and birds • Shelter and food source for mammals • Mental health benefits • Increased climate change resilience • Increased flood resilience • Improved resilience of nature

Reduce use of pesticides	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only use pesticide where absolutely necessary, such as on bound surfaces like tarmac paths • Encourage residents to stop all use of pesticides in their gardens – offer suggestions on the website of natural pest control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost • Increased biodiversity • Improved resilience of nature
Log piles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install log piles on all Public Open Space • Encourage residents to install them on their land / gardens • Utilise any ash trees that are to be removed or any trees / branches that have been felled • Make Stag Horn Beetle pyramids - How to build a log pyramid for stag beetles - PTES • Compost green waste 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost • Increased biodiversity • New habitat for insects • Food source for insects and birds • Shelter and food source for mammals and amphibians • Improved resilience of nature
Litter Picking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community groups with litter pickers, bags • Include on social media / website the dangers of litter to wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low cost • Improved habitat conditions for wildlife • Less wildlife deaths from litter • Improved mental health • Safer public open space • Improved resilience of nature
Pollinator planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant pollinator friendly plants • Use native UK species • Use native pollinator plants in hanging baskets and planters • Encourage residents to plant native pollinator plants in their gardens through the website and social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased biodiversity • Improved resilience of nature • Great public engagement
Hedgehog recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share the link to Hedgehog Highways on line via social media and website www.hedgehogstreet.org • Put key information on website • Install hedgehog homes on suitable Town Council land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased biodiversity • Help prevent a species from going extinct • Great community engagement • Low Cost

Work Programme Years 2 to 6

Project Name	Site	Description	Timeline
Tree Planting	Cemetery	<i>Plant x trees in the Peace Garden Replace x tree(s) in the cemetery</i>	Year 3 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Plant x Fruit trees Plant x native trees to extend woodland planting scheme</i>	Year 2 Year 3 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6
	Community Land	<i>Plant 1 new cherry tree Plant 1 new weeping willow</i>	Year 2 Year 3
	Residents	<i>Encourage to plant a tree (s) in their gardens – suggest tree species suitable for small, medium or large gardens on website / social media</i>	Year 2 onwards
Nesting Birds	Cemetery Chapels	<i>Install nest boxes on both chapels</i>	Year 2
	Community Centre	<i>Install nest box on centre</i>	Year 2
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Install nest boxes</i>	Year 2
	Town Hall	<i>Install nest box</i>	Year 3
	Cemetery	<i>Install nest boxes</i>	Year 3
	Residents	<i>Post on Facebook to see who has any nesting birds on their properties – will help identify existing species Provide guidance on how to build nesting boxes on website and social media</i>	Year 2 onwards

Grassland Management	Cemetery	<i>Cemetery Field – develop a wildflower meadow</i>	Year 2 onwards
		Identified areas in old section of cemetery – No Mow May	Year 2 onwards
	Community Land	<i>Leave 1 – 2 metres boundary uncut and sow wildflower seed</i>	Year 2
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Leave 1 – 2 metres boundary uncut and sow wildflower seed</i>	Year 2
	Residents	<i>Encourage residents to take part in No Mow May and /or to leave areas of their lawns uncut</i>	Year 2 onwards
Reduce use of Pesticides	All sites	<i>Reduce use of pesticides – only use when necessary and use ones that are not harmful to animals</i>	Year 2 onwards
	Residents	<i>Encourage residents to reduce use of pesticides – provide alternative methods via social media and website</i>	Year 2 onwards
Log Piles	Cemetery	<i>Identify suitable locations and start saving suitable materials</i>	Year 2
		<i>Utilise any branches / trees that have fallen / pruned or removed</i>	
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Utilise any branches / trees that have fallen / pruned / removed</i>	Year 2
	Community Land	<i>Utilise any branches / trees that have fallen / pruned or removed</i>	Year 2
	Residents	<i>Publicise via social media and provide guidance on website</i>	Year 2
Litter Picking	All sites	<i>Support community groups and continue regular scheduled litter picking</i>	Year 2
Pollinator Planting	Cemetery	<i>Identify areas for planting and research suitable pollinators</i>	Year 3
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Identify areas for planting and research suitable pollinators</i>	Year 2
	Community Land	<i>Identify areas for planting and research suitable pollinators</i>	Year 3
	Residents	<i>Encourage residents via social media to plant native pollinators and provide suggestions / links on the website</i>	Year 2
Hedgehog Recovery	Cemetery	<i>Identify suitable, safe locations</i>	Year 2
		<i>Install 1 hedgehog home</i>	Year 3
		<i>Install 1 hedgehog home</i>	Year 5
	Bondgate Woodland	<i>Identify suitable locations</i>	Year 2
		<i>Install 1 hedgehog home</i>	Year 2

		<i>Install 1 hedgehog home</i>	Year 4
	Community Land	Identify suitable, safe location	Year 3
		<i>Install 1 hedgehog home</i>	Year 4
	Residents	<i>Encourage residents via social media to build a hedgehog home and provide instructions / links on website</i>	