

Nature Recovery Opportunities Mapping Project: Timeline

Nov 2019 - Jan 2020	Discussion of environmental improvements in the parish by Kingston Parish Council (KPC) and the Kingston Action Group (KAG).
June 2020 - May 2021	A draft Environmental Policy for both the built and natural environment of Kingston along with an Action Plan to support the implementation of the policy are developed by KPC and KAG.
May 2021	<p>Environmental Policy and Action Plan adopted by KPC. The stated aim of the policy is to: 'make a positive contribution to protecting and enhancing the local and global environment by promoting biodiversity, the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, and minimising environmental pollution.'</p> <p>The Action Plan includes the commitment to manage KPC land to minimise environmental pollution where possible and promote biodiversity. KPC is to review the contracts for managing the land it owned and identify improvements, and explore the development of green corridors through the parish.</p>
July 2021	Discussion Paper on <i>Green corridors - Promoting biodiversity in Kingston</i> drafted by KAG.
September 2021	KPC discuss <i>Green corridors - Promoting biodiversity in Kingston</i> and agree that funding should be sought for a mapping project as the first step in implementing green corridors. It is also agreed to set up a working group to progress ideas.
Autumn 2021	KPC and KAG establish a Biodiversity Working Group to further initiatives. Residents with environmental expertise join the group. The group meets during the autumn when possible or emails to discuss ideas.
October 2021	Kingston contributes to the SDNPA Nature Recovery video which is shared widely with parishes across the National Park.
Autumn 2021	Approaches are made to various sources of funding but are unsuccessful. Our focus on establishing a researched baseline of biodiversity across the whole parish as a preliminary to underpin future targeted initiatives does not fit with funders' requirements e.g. to demonstrate community engagement or specify immediate and practical change.
November 2021	Telephone discussion with SDNPA re proposals for a parish-wide mapping project receives positive feedback and encouragement to apply under the recently launched SDNPA's new i renaturing programme 'Call for Nature Sites'.
January 2022	KPC put forward an expression of interest to SDNPA for a grant for a green infrastructure mapping project.
August 2022	Meeting with SDNPA to discuss the proposed project in more detail. KPC are invited to submit a more detailed proposal which SDNPA will consider for funding.
September 2022	Proposal is developed by members of the Biodiversity Working Group and submitted by KPC to SDNPA for funding.
October 2022	Following some further discussion, SDNPA agrees to fund the Kingston Nature Recovery Opportunities Mapping Project.
November 2022	KPC resolve to commission Wild Business to undertake the project. Subsequently a consultancy contract is established with Wild Business for the project to be completed over a three-month period - January - March 2023.

January March 2023	Approx. monthly zoom meetings between the Biodiversity Working Group and Wild Business are held to discuss the progress of the project and ensure our input.
April 2023	Draft Kingston Nature Recovery Opportunities Mapping Project Report shared with KPC and views of councillors sought.
June 2023	Draft report presented to KPC who approve the report as final. KPC agree to support the setting up of a formal working group of KPC (Kingston Nature Recovery Group - KNRG) to develop proposals to implement the report's findings. The group is to report back regularly to KPC and submit project/funding proposals for KPC approval. The report and summary to be put on the KPC website under a 'Nature Recovery' tab along with future minutes of the KNRG.
June 2023	The report is presented to the village meeting.
June 2023	KNRG begins to draw up an action plan to implement the report's proposals.

KNRG August 2023