



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability	Agenda Item:	ES6
Meeting date:	18 November 2025	Authors:	Responsible Financial Officer
Subject:	Climate Earmarked Reserve		
Purpose:	To note earmarked reserve		

Recommendation(s):

To note

1. Background

This new committee was created to enable the council to focus on its climate pledge and drive the council towards net zero.

The current budgets the council has are spread across various committees and I would suggest these remain under the committee in which the building / item refers to but that this committee makes recommendations.

2. Options for Council

To note earmarked reserve amount of £1,430.00

3. Reason for recommendation

To note for transparency

4. Expected benefits

To give more of a detailed focus on climate efficiency and improvement.

5. Implications

5.1 Legal	
5.2 Risks	
5.3 Financial	
5.4 Time scales	
5.5 Stakeholders & Social Value	
5.6 Contracts	
5.7 Climate & Sustainability	
5.8 Crime & Disorder	
5.9 Health & Safety	
5.10 Biodiversity	
5.11 Privacy Impact	
5.12 Equality & Diversity	

6. Values & priorities alignment

Which of the Core Values does the recommendation demonstrate?	
6.1 Empowering and supporting the community	☐
6.2 Growing the economy sustainably	☐
6.3 Helping children and young people	☐
6.4 Improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to Peacehaven	☐
6.5 Supporting residents in need	☐
6.6 Valuing the environment	☒

6.7 Which business plan item(s) does the recommendation relate to?
N/A

7. Appendices



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability	Agenda Item:	ES7
Meeting date:	18 th November 2025	Authors:	Cllr Sue Griffiths
Subject:	To Discuss & Agree the Committee's Budget Requirements for 2026/2027		
Purpose:	To set a Budget		

Recommendation(s):

To Decide committees budget requirements for 2026/2027

1. Background

In November every year, PTC committees put together their budget requirements for the following year. These are then submitted to the Policy and Finance committee which is responsible for prioritising the requests and deciding which items are recommended to form the Precept for the next year.

2. Options for Committee

To agree on any budgetary needs

3. Reason for recommendation

To meet the financial regulations

4. Expected benefits

Good financial management

5. Implications

5.1 Legal	
5.2 Risks	
5.3 Financial	Financial Regulations
5.4 Time scales	
5.5 Stakeholders & Social Value	
5.6 Contracts	
5.7 Climate & Sustainability	
5.8 Crime & Disorder	
5.9 Health & Safety	
5.10 Biodiversity	
5.11 Privacy Impact	
5.12 Equality & Diversity	

6. Values & priorities alignment

Which of the Core Values does the recommendation demonstrate?	
6.1 Empowering and supporting the community	☒
6.2 Growing the economy sustainably	☐
6.3 Helping children and young people	☐
6.4 Improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to Peacehaven	☐
6.5 Supporting residents in need	☐
6.6 Valuing the environment	☐

6.7 Which business plan item(s) does the recommendation relate to?
At the time of writing this committee does not have a business plan.

7. Appendices



Peacehaven Town Council

Terms of Reference & Schemes of Delegation

1. Introduction
2. Standing Committees
 - 2.1. Community Engagement
 - 2.2. Environment and Sustainability
 - 2.3. Leisure and Amenities
 - 2.4. Personnel
 - 2.5. Planning
 - 2.6. Policy and Finance
3. Officers
 - 3.1. Town Clerk
 - 3.2. Responsible Financial Officer
4. Civic
 - 4.1. Mayor of Peacehaven

1. Introduction

Local Councils may do only what legislation requires or permits them to do. The Local Government Act 1972, s101 (with some exceptions) allows the Council to delegate functions to committees, sub committees, officers, or other authorities. Authority to make decisions cannot be delegated to an individual Councillor or group of Councillors outside of a committee.

In addition to legislation, the business of Peacehaven Town Council (PTC) is governed by its adopted Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

The Chair and Vice Chair of Council will also be ex-officio members with full voting rights of every Committee.

The Council cannot delegate certain specified decisions. The following will be matters for Full Council only (FR 1.13):

- Setting the final budget or the precept (council tax requirement).
- Approving the Annual Governance Statement.
- Approving the Annual Accounting Statements.
- Borrowing.
- Writing off bad debts.
- Declaring eligibility for the General Power of Competence
- Addressing recommendations in any report from the internal or external auditors

Additionally, the council must (FR 1.14):

- Determine and keep under regular review the bank mandate for all council bank accounts
- Approve any single grant or a single commitment in excess of £30,000
- In respect of annual salary for any employee, have regard to recommendations made by the relevant committee in accordance with its terms of reference

Unless council determines otherwise, a committee may appoint a sub-committee whose terms of reference and membership shall be determined by the committee. (SO 4a)

The members of a committee may include non-councillors unless it is a committee which regulates and controls the finances of the council. (SO 4b)

The council shall determine the terms of reference of standing committees (SO 4d (i)), the number and time of the ordinary meetings of the committee (SO 4d (ii)), appoint the members of the committee (SO 4d (iv)) and appoint the chairman of the committee (SO 4d (vi)).

The chairman of a committee may convene an extraordinary meeting of the committee at any time (SO 6c). If the chairman of a committee does not call an extraordinary meeting within 7 days of having been requested to do so by 2 members of the committee, any 2 members of the committee may convene an extraordinary meeting of the committee. (SO 6d)

The quorum for each committee shall be one-third of the membership (with a minimum of three).

2. Standing Committees

2.2. Environment and Sustainability

Membership

The Environment and Sustainability Committee (ESC) shall have a maximum of nine (9) members.

Quorum

Three (3) members must be present to constitute a quorum.

Meetings

The Environment and Sustainability Committee shall meet at least three (3) times per year.

Terms of Reference

Making decisions in line with Council policies, in particular those relating to climate change, biodiversity, nature recovery, and to be proactive in ensuring that the Council's carbon neutral targets are met by 2030.

Reviewing, advising on, and proposing changes to policies and procedures relating to the environmental management and sustainability practices of the Council.

Submitting proposals for the following financial year to the Council not later than the end of October each year including any proposals for revising the forecast.

Scheme of Delegation

- To **advise** on environmental and sustainability implications of tenders and contracts in accordance with PTC's Financial Regulations and with reference to its Policy and Finance Committee.
- To **report** progress against the Council's Community & Business Plans.
- To **recommend** actions to promote nature recovery and biodiversity.
- To **recommend** targets relating to climate change and sustainability for Council to consider.
- To **develop** action plans for environmental and sustainability management.

- To **report** progress towards the Council's agreed targets for climate change and sustainability.
- To **prepare** annual Committee budget estimates for review by the Policy and Finance Committee.
- To **manage** and **monitor** at each committee meeting the income and expenditure against the approved budget for the committee.
- To **consider** the environmental implications of Committee decisions, including for biodiversity and nature recovery.
- To **submit** reports with recommendations to other Standing Committees for items under their delegated authority, including the bi-annual climate event.

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The Oval Biodiversity Gains Assessment

Advice Template	
Site	The Oval, Peacehaven
Group	Peacehaven Town Council
Date	02.07.2025
Provided by	Dr Dan Danahar, Jessie Rodriguez

Site specific advice

We acknowledge that The Oval that was donated to Peacehaven Town Council (PTC) is largely used by the local community for dog walking, picnics and to admire the local flora and fauna (as verified by the PTC use survey).

As is the case with all wilder places in Peacehaven, the location of this park is important for migrating species that may require shelter and food after crossing the channel and therefore, is a gateway to the extensive South Downs National Park. Subsequently, it is an important site to look for European species whose northerly distributions have expanded because of the influences of climate change. The park has a lot to offer butterfly and bird conservation, because the Oval has the potential to be one of the first stops before such species are funneled by the contours of the land towards the River Ouse valley, where under favorable conditions they may establish new colonies.

We observed plentiful Gorse and Bracken during our onsite inspection, indicating a geology of clay on top of chalk. The British Geological Survey, Sheet 319/334 Lewes and Eastbourne map shows the bedrock to be Newhaven chalk formation, capped in places with Lambeth group clays. We recommend digging test holes or using an auger (mind services!!) before any habitat management is carried out, to determine the plant assemblages that would be expected on these soils. It is also possible that on some sites rubble and other soils could have been brought in or the soil profile may have been disrupted by the reprofiling.

A community BioBlitz was conducted in March 2025 on The Oval and the Valley and there are significant numbers of internationally and nationally protected species available through the Sussex biodiversity Records Centre. Peacehaven Community Garden (PCG) has been established in the southwestern corner of the site and is run by volunteers. PCG contains some significant trees with TPO'S within and around the boundary. The PCG contains a moth garden, hibernaculum and mini pond, all immensely beneficial for wildlife. Blackthorn is the host plant to the Brown Hairstreak Butterfly and if this is to be found at the Oval it can be left to spread through natural suckering. We suggest looking for the eggs of this species from October to March in the forks of the branches, where they appear as white dots (0.5mm in diameter). For local information about these species see Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube films: [Episode 17 - Looking for the Brown Hairstreak in the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#)



Grass Cutting

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Area 1

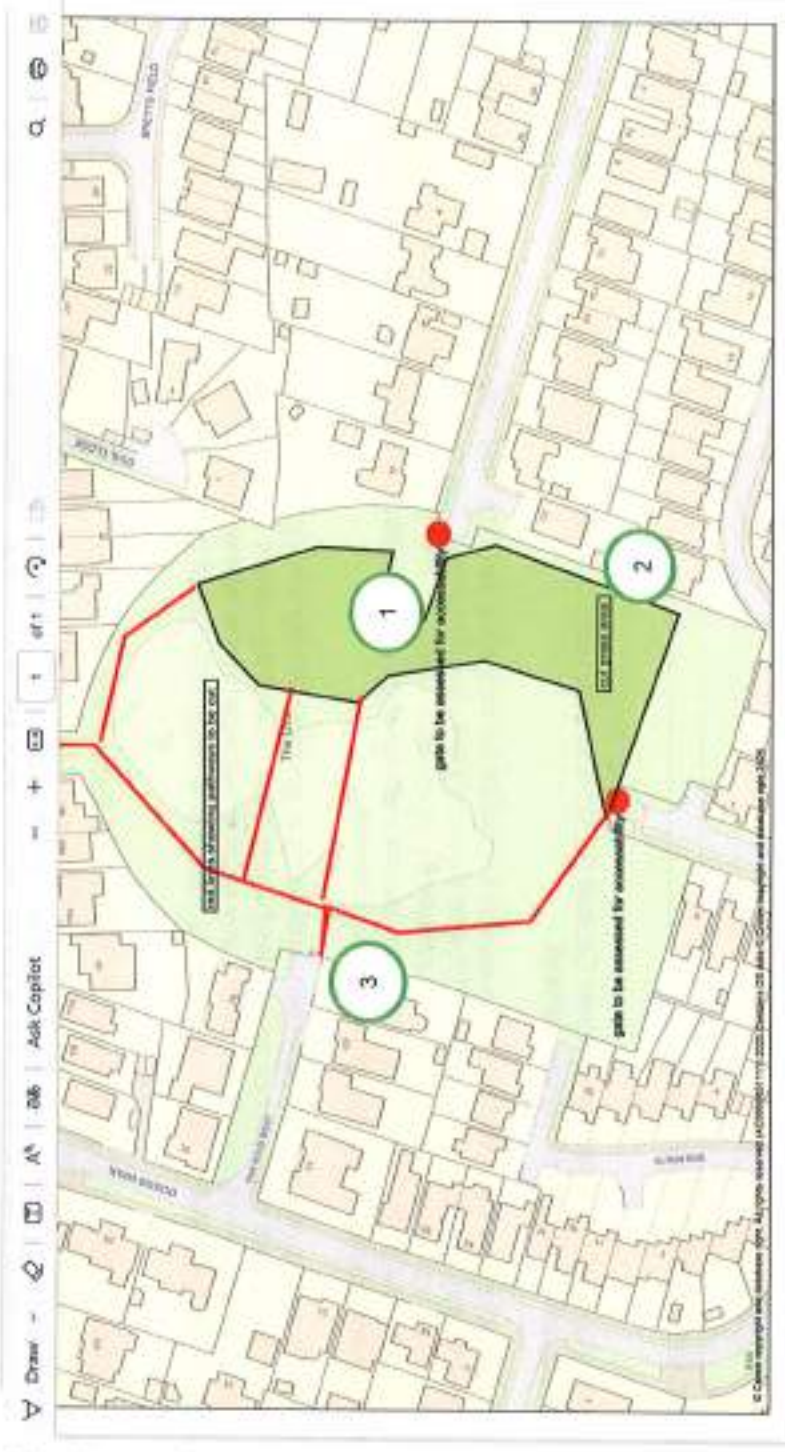
Mole (*Talpa europaea*) hills were abundant here and despite their commonality, moles are poorly researched due to their secretive, underground nature, making population and distribution data somewhat ambiguous. We suggest making this a high interest priority species, promoting observations of it's behaviour and ecology through community engagement and public signage. Working in partnership with organisation like the Sussex Wildlife Trust or local universities, this mole population could be monitored and the research made public. Research on how small scale changes in topography, caused by moles, might influence invertebrate ecology could make some original discoveries. It may be advisable to meet with accessibility users or an advisory group to prioritise a safe pathway, cut to a height of 50mm, whilst trying to avoid areas with the highest density of mole hills. This would demonstrate reasonable precautions had been taken to prevent injury or accident.

Area 2

This site is peppered with insect holes in the bare soil which may have been created by specialist invertebrates. Mow alternate halves every 6 weeks or so. Rabbit grazing is helping to create the varied mosaic of habitat and hugely beneficial to the site. Dog walkers tend to pick up more on mown areas. The site would benefit from more natural management. We would suggest that people engagement work required to facilitate change. Jessie can help explore approaches to this.

Area 3

Cut sections of the Bracken back in the spring to vary Bracken/grass heights, especially along path edges, giving a graded ecotone, to provide better habitat for invertebrates and a varied temperature gradient.



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Trees

The trees (purple in the adjacent map) are currently inspected every 3 years - in house inspections and independent contractor. We suggest reducing Silver Birch and Holm Oak, in preference for Beech, Alder Buckthorn (or Purging Buckthorn if chalk).



Wilder Areas

Gorse and scrub (green in the map above) are hugely beneficial to birds and invertebrates but consider a 3-5-year rotation coppice of Gorse so that the age structure is more diverse on the site and the Gorse does not die off at a similar age. The created glades will allow greater floral diversity, if the Gorse mulch not to thick (this may need to be raked up). The Gorse regrowth will be beneficial to many butterflies and moths.

Peacehaven Community Garden

This is in the southeast of the Oval and is maintained by volunteers (rust coloured in the map to the right). It has several mature Sycamore trees protected by TPO's and they have low conservation value. If opportunity arises plant Purging (if chalky) or Alder Buckthorn in this area, as it is the food plant for the Brimstone Butterfly. Avoid planting Silver Birch and other species not in keeping with the natural succession that should take place on this geology, which

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would be pioneered by Ash, followed by the climatic climax vegetation of either Beech or Yew woodland (depending on the soil depth). A hazel coppice could be appropriate in parts of the garden. The garden has several wildlife friendly features such as a mini pond, hibernaculum, a moth garden and there are raised beds and composters.

Cut and collect the meadow areas in Sept/Oct and consider planting plug plants appropriate to soil in profile in the Community Garden.

Benches

Should the opportunity arise, we suggest the installation of more natural benches e.g., tree trunks pegged to prevent rolling, in suitable places to create more invertebrate habitat. Leaving dying or dead standing wood in less accessible areas or at a height not considered dangerous, would be advantageous for a host of different organisms, as would a pile of cut wood in secluded places for invertebrates and hibernating amphibians and reptiles.

The Oval Aerial Satellite View



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Grassland Management

We suggest cutting meadow margins to a height of 0.1m/10cm around these un-mown areas, as these "Managed Margins" show that this land management is deliberate. The margins can be between 0.5 - 2 metres deep. If people repeatedly walk over some of the long areas (usually the most direct route for crossing an area) mow these desire lines in the uncut areas to create paths, the edge effects created add ecological complexity and thus benefits the habitat diversity.

'Cut and collect' is hugely beneficial management technique for biodiversity gains and also has some practical and economic implications but it would be worth investigating if contractors can accommodate these changes, a sympathetic farmer could be involved for free hay and/or grant funding for a collaboratively owned cut and collect mower with other Havens or town councils hiring the equipment (current hire cost is currently £550-£600 per week and this could be reduced to maintenance costs to enable more use). Jessie to investigate funding options; South Downs National Park Re Nature Fund will be open again Sept/Oct.

Habitat creation for butterflies on suitable chalk sites.

We suggest using plug plant species such as Bird's-foot Trefoil, Scabious, Black Knapweed and Greater Knapweed, Ladies Bedstraw and chalk downland specialist species such as the Horse-shoe Vetch and Kidney Vetch were low nutrient neutral or chalky soil are known to occur. These species are the host plants of the Adonis Blue (*Polyommatus bellargus*) and Chalkhill Blue (*Polyommatus coridon*), as well as the Small Blue (*Cupido minimus*) butterflies. Plant a 2 m wide band at the top of any bank and leave the lower parts of a bank to colonise naturally, by falling seed. For local information about these species see Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube films: [Episode 9 - Looking for the Adonis Blue butterfly in the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#), [Episode 15 - Looking for the Chalkhill Blue outside the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#), [Episode 8 - Looking for the Small Blue in the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#)

Additionally, the use of Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*) and Creeping Cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*) plant plugs, in bare chalky ground may have benefits for the Grizzled Skipper (*Pyrgus malvae*), as the Sussex Butterfly Atlas (Blencowe & Hulme, (2017) The Butterflies of Sussex, Pisces Publications) identified many viable colonies in the region. See: Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube film [Episode 4 - The Grizzled Skipper \(Pyrgus malvae\) the director's cut](#), which outlines the necessary management for this species.

Sowing Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea (*Lathyrus latifolius*) in more formal areas may encourage the Long-tailed Blue. This a continental migrant butterfly which has been expanding the northern limits of its European distribution in response to changing climate. See: Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube film: [Episode 3 - The Long-tailed Blue \(Lampides boeticus\)](#), which outlines the colonisation of this species locally.

Notes

- Baseline surveys are recommended for plants, birds, butterflies, mammals, etc. Engaging local volunteers can be useful in this respect. Take fixed point photographs before any changes are made to the management in any location, to illustrate the benefits of the work.
- We suggest monitoring butterflies (in this and other areas) using a transect, see the UK Butterfly Monitoring Project to record sightings/ transect (<https://ukbms.org>). Contact the Sussex branch of Butterfly Conservation to see if they can encourage volunteers to undertake this work: julia_lowsonsmith@yahoo.co.uk, +44 7802 174944.

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- It would be advisable to contact the local British Trust for Ornithologists volunteers to establish if counts occur, any records and establish a survey.
- Tree saplings (of local provenance) can be obtained from Special Branch Tree Nursery, Stanmer. Contact: Chris Perry/ Martin Verrall 07796 592786 for prices and availability.
- Wildflower plugs (of local provenance) can be obtained from Wildflower Conservation Society Nursery, Stanmer Park (Tuesdays). Contact: Sally Graham - Macleod 07717 302917 for prices and availability.
- We recommend "Managed Margins" which are cut margins (0.5m deep) around un-mown areas, as these show that this land management is deliberate. If people repeatedly walk over some of the long areas, then mow these desire lines in the uncut areas to create paths. The edges created add biodiversity benefits for insects due to the temperature gradients.
- 'Cut and collect' is hugely beneficial management technique for biodiversity gains and also has some practical and economic implications. You will need to use a sacrificial area that cuttings can be composted which is beneficial to reptiles and lizard such as grass snake, common lizards and slow worms. The associated slugs are also great source of food for amphibians and hedgehogs.

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Advice Template	
Site	The Dell
Group	Peacehaven Town Council
Date	02.07.2025
Provided by	Dr Dan Danahar, Jessie Rodriguez

Site specific advice

We acknowledge that large areas of The Dell are managed for recreational activities (including car boot fairs) and therefore in this report we have focused mostly on benefits for the wilder areas and those that present most potential for biodiversity gain. We congratulate the Town Council on their efforts thus far, which demonstrate many obvious successes. The Ouse Valley Climate Action Project is delighted to work in partnership with the Town Council to create more gains for biodiversity, for the good of the local community and for the natural environment.

The underlying Castle Hill Beds of the Lower Culver Chalk Formation are sedimentary rocks of marine origin and are largely comprised of the skeletal remains of planktonic algae known as coccolithophores which accumulated to form a white ooze on the seafloor. This soft sediment was later compacted and hardened (lithified) to form Chalk – a relatively soft rock itself. The purity of the Chalk indicates its formation took place far from land, free of terrestrial sands and silts that would otherwise have coloured it. This could be why the site hosted a quarry/chalk pit, now disused (<https://geodiversity.sussex.org.uk/geodiversity/SussexGeology.php>). We would recommend signage that outlines the history of this site.

The location of this park is important for migrating species that may require shelter and food after crossing the channel. Furthermore, it is very accessible to the public and more specifically families that would be unlikely to venture into the South Downs National Park. Subsequently, it is an important site to look for European species whose northerly distributions have expanded because of the influences of climate change. The Dell has potential to be one of the early stops before such species are funneled by the contours of the land towards the River Ouse valley, where under favorable conditions they may establish new colonies.

Area 1

This area is the most botanically rich grassland on the site and is probably good for specialist invertebrates too. Water slippage has created areas of exposed soil being utilized by invertebrates, so we suggest an invertebrate survey is conducted. Wildflower species already present include Bird's-foot Trefoil, White Clover, Mouse Ear, Ribwort Plantain, Selfheal, Thyme and Gorse. To avoid the Gorse from dominating the sward we suggest it is cut back hard to halt its growth and cover.

Area 2

In easterly section of Area 2 we suggest cutting a much deeper path to reduce brambles and create a greater ecotone. The presence of Gorse here suggests a superficial clay cap resting on the Culver chalk bedrock formation. The British Geological Survey map (Sheet 319/334) confirms this is very likely. Subsequently, chalk downland species have not done so well. Checking the geology here would be wise and could inform any reseedling policy.

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i.e. the move away from chalk downland species to neutral or more acid loving species. We suggest, cutting and collecting in late Sept or Oct and leaving the existing Oxeye Daisies, as they are beneficial to some species of moths.

Area 3

This north easterly corner of the plot was once ear marked for housing and subsequently has access from the pavement and bus stops. This would be an accessible location to demonstrate wilder gardening techniques and permaculture including some food growing. A vegetation only, compost for slow worms would be desirable, this can be made with rat proof composters. We suggest garden escapes are not encouraged and should be removed where possible. Furthermore, we would encourage scrub removal and utilize the PTC owned plot adjacent to Yemeni Coffee Garden. Consider removing some privet scrub but leaving the hedging as windbreak. The area was cut previously 2014 and there are complaints about rats in area, clearance would be beneficial to householders, as the disturbance and activity should discourage them. The rats are likely to be attracted to food outlets and households and not the scrub.

Area 4

This Sussex Geological Site is registered as a disused quarry on the Sussex Geodiversity site (see above for the link) possibly a pre-historic chalk pit. We suggest cutting back the gorse on the south facing slope of the meadow to restore the grassland flora. From a health and safety perspective, it might be best achieved with plant machinery. Scrape one or two areas down to chalk in the sunny areas on the flat and reseed with chalk downland species or plug plants. If funding for plants is unavailable the scrapes could be allowed to be colonised by the local biota. Consider creating small scrapes and introducing Yellow Rattle to the inaccessible grassy slope, this plant will parasitize the grasses enabling more diversity.

Area 5

Cut and collect in late September/October.

Area 6

Leave an unmown margin of 1m along the fence line. See what species arise, consider plug planting if not much diversity.

Area 7

This south facing bank was last mown in 2020. The grassland looks like a good quality section of chalk downland meadow and will have a minimum of 30m of Lower Culver Chalk beneath. It contains Black Knapweed, Bird's-foot Trefoil, Ladies Bedstraw, Carrot, Red Clover, Selfheal and Ragwort. Cut and collect annually leaving a margin to show it is intentional. Leave 1m margin along the whole fence line along A259 and consider a native hedge in play area as shelter and improvement in terms of biodiversity and safety of the area.

Area 8

This shelter hedge is needed due to the proximity to the sea, we suggest planting other species when the opportunity arises such as Purging Buckthorn or Hawthorn which provides nectar, nesting opportunities and fruit whilst withstanding the extreme conditions.

Area 9

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Leave the first 2m from fence line unmown, as beyond the fence is untouched maritime grassland and this will allow species to spread. It will also keep people away from the cliff edge.

Area 10

This east facing slope (used for car boot sales) is currently cut every 4 weeks, we would recommend cutting every 8 weeks (change to 6 weeks if 8 is too long). This would produce a slightly longer and more diverse grassland, whilst maintaining car and wheelchair access. Some biodiversity gains may occur; there would be less erosion and additional carbon capture. We also suggest leaving a band of longer grass along play area fence.

Grassland Management

We suggest cutting meadow margins to a height of 0.1m/10cm around these un-mown areas, as these "Managed Margins" show that this land management is deliberate. The margins can be between 0.5 - 2 metres deep. If people repeatedly walk over some of the long areas (usually the most direct route for crossing an area) mow these desire lines in the uncut areas to create paths, the edge effects created add ecological complexity and thus benefits the habitat diversity.

'Cut and collect' is hugely beneficial management technique for biodiversity gains and also has some practical and economic implications but it would be worth investigating if contractors can accommodate these changes, a sympathetic farmer could be involved for free hay and/or grant funding for a collaboratively owned cut and collect mower with other Havens or town councils hiring the equipment (current hire cost is currently £550-£600 per week and this could be reduced to maintenance costs to enable more use). Jessie to investigate funding options; South Downs National Park Re Nature Fund will be open again Sept/Oct.

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Notes

- Baseline surveys are recommended for plants, birds, butterflies, mammals, etc. Engaging local volunteers can be useful in this respect. Take fixed point photographs before any changes are made to the management in any location, to illustrate the benefits of the work.
- We suggest monitoring butterflies (in this and other areas) using a transect, see the UK Butterfly Monitoring Project to record sightings/ transect (<https://ukbms.org>). Contact the Sussex branch of Butterfly Conservation to see if they can encourage volunteers to undertake this work: julia_lowsonsmith@yahoo.co.uk, +44 7802 174944.
- It would be advisable to contact the local British Trust for Ornithologists volunteers to establish if counts occur, any records and establish a survey.
- Tree saplings (of local provenance) can be obtained from Special Branch Tree Nursery, Stanmer. Contact: Chris Perry/ Martin Verrall 07796 592786 for prices and availability.
- Wildflower plugs (of local provenance) can be obtained from Wildflower Conservation Society Nursery, Stanmer Park (Tuesdays). Contact: Sally Graham - Macleod 07717 302917 for prices and availability.



The Dell hedges and scrub areas

1. Rowe avenue – mixed hedge to be cut once a year in late summer/ autumn- consider introducing other species such as hawthorn.
2. Northeast scrub area privet hedges – to be cut twice a year.
3. Scrub area in the crater – cut back once a year to halt ingress on to the grass area- Consider creating glades on 3-5-year rotation.
4. Playground – hedge cut as required to keep clear the sightline to the road and growth over the playground.
5. Wild scrub area – left untouched if possible.

PARISH ONLINE

Peacehaven

Author:

Date: 02/06/2025



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Advice Template	
Site	Centenary Park (Big Park), Piddinghoe Avenue, Peacehaven
Group	Peacehaven Town Council
Date	02.07.2025
Provided by	Dr Dan Danahar, Jessie Rodriguez

Site specific advice

We acknowledge that large areas of Centenary Park are managed as pitches and other areas for recreational activities and therefore have focused mostly on the benefits of the areas already dedicated for wildflower meadows and scrub. We congratulate the Town Council on their efforts thus far and obvious successes. Furthermore, we appreciate their engagement with the Ouse Valley Climate Action Project to create more gains for biodiversity, for the benefit of the local community and environment.

In most parts of the park, we assumed the geology to be clay capped chalk and chalky (rendzina) soils, at times we encountered loess loam and thus recommend checking different areas by digging test holes or using auger (mind services!!) before you carry out any habitat restoration. The Sussex Geodiversity website (<https://geodiversitysussex.org.uk/geodiversity>) maps the park as being straddled by the clay of the Lambeth Group LMBE (Woolwich & Reading Formations - WRB) and the Chalk group CK (Grey Chalk & white Chalk Subgroups - GYCK/WHCK). In some locations (especially amenity sites) rubble and other soils may have been brought in to landscape the park and in places the soil profile may have been disrupted by the plant machinery during the development stage.

The location of the park is important for migrating species that may require shelter and food after crossing the channel and is a gateway to the extensive South Downs National Park. Subsequently, it is an important site to look for European species whose northerly distributions have expanded because of the influences of climate change. Consequently, the park has a lot to offer butterfly and bird conservation, because they have the potential to be one of the first stops before such species are funnelled by the contours of the land towards the River Ouse valley, where under favourable conditions they may establish new colonies.

Area 1

Planted Woody Copse

A sympathetically planted copse with some existing glade and meadow species. We suggest creating glades by thinning out the scrub and leave landscape trees for nesting birds, thus creating a greater habitat mosaic and more ecotone (edge habitat). New glade establishment could increase on a rotational basis annually. Any Blackthorn can be left to spread through natural suckering as this is the host plant to the Brown Hairstreak Butterfly. Consider monitoring these plants October to March to look for eggs in the nodes (again ask Sussex BC for volunteers). These appear as white dots between forking branches. Add Purging (usually on chalk) and Alder Buckthorn (usually on clay) to this area, as this is the hostplant for the Brimstone Butterfly.





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Cut the sward in May or even early June, once or every other year because rank/dominant grasses respond less favorably to this form management, but it allows wildflowers, and meadow grasses a chance to establish. Hay collected in this way can be sold as fodder or as the species richness of the site improves, it can be spread on recipient sites to improve species richness elsewhere. We suggest annual records are made and stored of wildflower and grasses are recorded. Look again in September/October and potentially cut in October again and bale, again possibly a sympathetic Farmer, or collaboratively owned cut and collect mower.

Area 3

Southern Water Land

In the last 5 years this area has been cut and baled by a local farmer once, worth encouraging SW to explore this once again.

Area 4

Meadow area

To improve this site, we suggest a cut and collect approach to mowing, as well as increasing species richness by introducing plug plants.

Recommended species include bird's-foot Trefoil, Scabious, Black Knapweed and Greater Knapweed, Ladies Bedstraw and chalk downland specialist species such as the Horse-shoe Vetch and Kidney Vetch were low nutrient neutral or chalky soil known to occur, and as has been said before they are the hostplants of the Adonis Blue (*Polyommatus bellargus*) and Chalkhill Blue (*Polyommatus coridon*) butterflies. Again, plant a 2 m wide band at the top of the bank and leave the lower bank to colonise naturally. Try sowing some areas with Yellow Rattle (a hemiparasitic of grasses, which diminishes their dominance in the sward and allows wildflowers to compete more successfully with them) Yellow rattle seed can be collected locally with a sweep net but can also be purchased from the Wildflower Conservation Society Nursery, Stanmer Park. Have students undertake percentage cover quadrant studies to monitor and compare areas sown with Yellow Rattle in comparison with those that have not.

Consider, making 100m²+ scrapes in any south facing slopes and sowing with either *Festuca ovina* or *F. rubra*. These are the host plants of the Silver-spotted Skipper (*Hesperia comma*), this butterfly species has shown a significant expansion in range since climate change has started to have an impact. It was formerly a very rare butterfly, restricted to one or two sites in Sussex. For local information about this species see Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube films: [Episode 14 - Looking for the Silver-spotted Skipper in the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#).

Area 5 & Area 6

Scrub Grassland Area

Southern Water land could use thinning to create glades as many Satyridae family of butterflies use grassy areas. Consider creating 1-2m margin/ecotone between the amenity grassland and the scrub to be mown May and October.

Area 7

Wild Meadows either side of the Southern Water Track

This area contained good quality meadows with promising species diversity, cut and collect at the end of the season ideally October. Consider creating 1 to 2m margin/ecotone between the amenity grassland and meadow to show intentionality and add habitat for invertebrates. Furthermore, also consider creating 1-2m margin/ecotone between the amenity grassland and the path to be mown May and October on the football pitch side of the path. Lewes Football Club are trialing some interesting 'renaturing' alongside the football facilities and looking at the potential effects on performance and player wellbeing.

ES10

Area 8

Peacehaven Community Orchard

Mow, cut and collect pathways to manage people and experiment with cut and collect patches in May and Oct to allow more wildflowers to develop in grass dominated areas. Also consider paths for orchard work as this adds to the invertebrate and flora diversity.

Habitat creation for butterflies on suitable chalk sites.

We suggest using plug plant species such as Bird's-foot Trefoil, Scabious, Black Knapweed and Greater Knapweed, Ladies Bedstraw and chalk downland specialist species such as the Horse-shoe Vetch and Kidney Vetch were low nutrient neutral or chalky soil are known to occur. These species are the host plants of the Adonis Blue (*Polyommatus bellargus*) and Chalkhill Blue (*Polyommatus coridon*), as well as the Small Blue (*Cupido minimus*) butterflies. Plant a 2 m wide band at the top of any bank and leave the lower parts of a bank to colonise naturally, by falling seed. For local information about these species see Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube films: [Episode 9 - Looking for the Adonis Blue butterfly in the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#), [Episode 15 - Looking for the Chalkhill Blue outside the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#), [Episode 8 - Looking for the Small Blue in the Brighton & Lewes Downs Biosphere](#)

Lewes Downs Biosphere

Additionally, the use of Wild Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*) Agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatoria*) and Creeping Cinquefoil (*Potentilla reptans*) plant plugs, in bare chalky ground may have benefits for the Grizzled Skipper (*Pyrgus malvae*), as the Sussex Butterfly Atlas (Blencowe & Hulme, (2017) The Butterflies of Sussex, Pisces Publications) identified many viable colonies in the region. See: Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube film [Episode 4 - The Grizzled Skipper \(Pyrgus malvae\) the director's cut](#), which outlines the necessary management for this species.

Sowing Broad-leaved Everlasting Pea (*Lathyrus latifolius*) in more formal areas such as around the cafe, may encourage the Long-tailed Blue. This a continental migrant butterfly which has been expanding the northern limits of its European distribution in response to changing climate. See: Dr Dan Danahar's YouTube film [Episode 3 - The Long-tailed Blue \(Lampides boeticus\)](#), which outlines the colonisation of this species locally.

Notes

- Baseline surveys are recommended for plants, birds, butterflies, mammals, etc. Engaging local volunteers can be useful in this respect. Take fixed point photographs before any changes are made to the management in any location, to illustrate the benefits of the work.
- We suggest monitoring butterflies (in this and other areas) using a transect, see the UK Butterfly Monitoring Project to record sightings/ transect (<https://ukbms.org>). Contact the Sussex branch of Butterfly Conservation to see if they can encourage volunteers to undertake this work: julia_lowsonsmith@yahoo.co.uk, +44 7802 174944.
- It would be advisable to contact the local British Trust for Ornithologists volunteers to establish if counts occur, any records and establish a survey.
- Tree saplings (of local provenance) can be obtained from Special Branch Tree Nursery, Stanmer. Contact: Chris Perry/ Martin Verrall 07796 592786 for prices and availability.
- Wildflower plugs (of local provenance) can be obtained from Wildflower Conservation Society Nursery, Stanmer Park (Tuesdays). Contact: Sally Graham - Macleod 07717 302917 for prices and availability.

Peacehaven

Author:

Date: 02/06/2025





Community

and

Business

Plan

Our vision:

Peacehaven aims to be a sustainable environment providing a good quality of life for all residents and visitors.

Our mission:

To ensure Peacehaven remains a thriving community and a healthy, sustainable, attractive, resilient place to work, live and visit. To encourage vibrant retail and cultural development that blends with our special and distinctive environment. To listen to our community and encourage residents to engage, educate and evaluate us



Introduction

Peacehaven Town Council provides a range of local services and community facilities. The current population is about 15,700 living to the East, West and North of a central point, which is the Meridian Centre. Peacehaven is a growing town located between Newhaven to the East (with a ferry link to Europe) and the City of Brighton & Hove to the West. Peacehaven has a diverse age demographic with young families moving into the area alongside an elderly generation that has always lived in the town.

With the growth of the town, Peacehaven needs to embrace opportunities, overcome challenges and pull together as a community to make it a town to live, work and enjoy together.



Peacehaven Town Council is responsible for:

- Maintenance of allotments, some bus shelters, the Peacehaven & Telscombe War Memorial, several local parks, green spaces, sports and recreational facilities
- Provision of grants for local projects and organisations, and halls for social clubs and meetings
- Hosting local events for the benefit of the Community
- Peacehaven's lowest tier of government is the Peacehaven Town Council which has a statutory right to be consulted on local planning, highways and other amenities.



Core Values

Increasing pressures on finances mean that it is more important than ever that Peacehaven Town Council focuses on the things that matter most to Peacehaven. The following priorities aim to ensure that we gain the most use from our resources.

Empowering and supporting the community

Support a resilient, inclusive, and healthy community, tackle inequalities, and promote the safety of the community.

Growing the economy sustainably

Work with others to support sustainable growth and a strong community, ensure Peacehaven is a great place to invest in, live, work, and visit, and that Peacehaven Town Council is committed to being a responsible employer.

Helping children and young people

Support and inspire children and young people to raise their aspirations and reach their full potential.

Improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to Peacehaven

Endeavour to address the needs of residents within the resources and powers available to Peacehaven Town Council.

Supporting residents in need

Provide support in times of need and improve quality of life.

Valuing the environment

Promote sustainability and nature recovery, improve our infrastructure, safeguard our heritage and biodiversity.



Planning & Highways Committee

Project	Road Safety: Crossings & Islands		
Description	Map existing crossings and islands, survey opinion on changes, and present proposals for change to ESCC in priority order and advocate for the proposed changes with identified finances		
Target Completion	2027	Current Position	Not started
Resource Allocation	Initial research and mapping by Councillors, cost of survey by Officers, and Officer time		
Measure of Success	Completion of proposals for change, persuade ESCC		

Project	Improvements to A259 High Street Area		
Description	Assess all Kaner Olette report proposals for A259 and accept/ reject/ prioritise, with a report back to Full Council		
Target Completion	March 2025	Current Position	Started
Resource Allocation	Depends on conclusions - CIL expenditure, some money in Earmarked Reserves		
Measure of Success	Completion on time		



Planning & Highways Committee

Project	Footpaths, bridleways, and cycle/wheeling routes		
Description	Create a map of all footpaths and bridleways, including informal ones. Consider proposals to register any that are not already registered. Work with stakeholders to develop proposals for a possible East/West active travel route		
Target Completion	2026	Current Position	ESCC Cycle loop project begun
Resource Allocation	Councillor time, cost of map publication		
Measure of Success	Complete registration well in advance of 2030 deadline for LDC. Identify land for possible east-west routes for wheeling		

Project	Assets of nature, biodiversity, and built environment		
Description	Develop a strategic plan to measure, monitor, and improve assets of nature and biodiversity		
Target Completion	April 2027	Current Position	TPOs improved. Orchard, Community Garden
Resource Allocation	Councillor & Officer time, costs of plant and equipment to measure air/ sea quality		
Measure of Success	Protection and enhancement of green/ built assets with evidence.		



Civic & Community Events Committee

Project	Isolation		
Description	Develop the community space, increase community coffee mornings, and support local groups running community activities where necessary		
Target Completion	December 2024	Current Position	Some coffee mornings
Resource Allocation	Persons to run the community space, printing, officer time, and use of rooms in Community House		
Measure of Success	Amount of people using Community House and attending events		

Project	The Meridian Meander		
Description	Promote the Meridian Meander, with the benefits of healthy lifestyle, recognising local heritage, enjoyment of nature, and encouraging tourism to the town		
Target Completion	2025	Current Position	TFG Active
Resource Allocation	Councillor and Officer time		
Measure of Success	Demand for Meridian Meander leaflets, monitoring of website traffic via proposed QR codes		



Civic & Community Events Committee

Project	Contact with the Chamber of Commerce		
Description	Representatives from Peacehaven Town Council attending Chamber of Commerce meetings, regular updates from the Chamber and joint projects with the Chamber		
Target Completion	2025	Current Position	Outside body reps in place.
Resource Allocation	Officer and Councillor time, cost of breakfast meetings		
Measure of Success	Survey of local businesses and annual review meetings with the Chamber of Commerce		

Project	Closer working with Schools & Nurseries		
Description	Continue developing the role of the Youth Mayor and School/ Nursery projects. Collaborate with the School Council, and provide work experience placements		
Target Completion	2026	Current Position	In progress
Resource Allocation	Officer time		
Measure of Success	Lines of Communication in place with Schools and Nurseries		



Policy & Finance Committee

Project	Community House 10-year plan		
Description	Agree a 10-year plan to refurbish Community House with the aim of making the building sustainable and carbon net-zero		
Target Completion	December 2024	Current Position	Working Group in place
Resource Allocation	Officer time to manage project, procure grant funding and develop 10-year plan		
Measure of Success	10-year plan in place and agreed by Council		

Project	Net zero carbon resolution		
Description	To monitor and report on the Council progress to net zero carbon across Town Council functions, with agreed means of assessing carbon emissions		
Target Completion	2030	Current Position	Ongoing
Resource Allocation	Officer time and finance which could come from budgets, CIL, grants, and any other means		
Measure of Success	Achieve net zero carbon		



Policy & Finance Committee

Project	Efficiency and sustainability of Town Council resources		
Description	Through policy review and implementation, ensure that policies and procedures are promoting efficient and sustainable use of all Town Council resources		
Target Completion	April 2025	Current Position	Some policies in place
Resource Allocation	Officer time		
Measure of Success	Plan to review policies and procedures in place and being implemented		

Project	External Grant Applications		
Description	Develop knowledge of available grant funding from all sources		
Target Completion	2025	Current Position	Meetings and Projects Officer in place
Resource Allocation	Officer time for research		
Measure of Success	Number of Grant applications applied for, Officer in place with training, and measuring success rate of applications		



Personnel Committee

Project	Skills, training, and appraisals		
Description	Collect data and set timetable, procedures and evidence to ensure that skills, training, and appraisals up to date and promote continuous development		
Target Completion	March 2025	Current Position	Interim Assessment October 2024
Resource Allocation	Town Clerk & Line Manager's time, Personnel Committee members' time		
Measure of Success	Completion of annual appraisals to a high standard		

Project	Early resolution of complaints		
Description	Record and monitor complaints received, and early resolution of complaints by Officers		
Target Completion	2026	Current Position	Monitoring underway
Resource Allocation	Officer time		
Measure of Success	Quantifiable data demonstrating complaints are dealt with		



Personnel Committee

Project	Civility & respect and good employer schemes		
Description	Ensure civility and respect are at the centre of Council culture, following NALC & SLCC guidelines, and actively work towards an award (such as East Sussex Wellbeing at Work, or NALC Star Council)		
Target Completion	2025	Current Position	Signed Civility & Respect Pledge
Resource Allocation	Officer time and Personnel Committee.		
Measure of Success	Civility and Respect Pledge adhered to, award identified and applied for		

Project	Manage within staffing budgets, including overtime		
Description	Monitor quarterly staff costs including overtime and training		
Target Completion	March 2025	Current Position	Agenda item at Committee
Resource Allocation	RFO time and Personnel Committee		
Measure of Success	Annual costs maintained within staffing budget		



Leisure, Amenities, and Environment Committee

Project	Accessibility to parks and open spaces owned by the Town Council		
Description	Undertake an accessibility audit of Parks and open spaces and develop an Action Plan to make improvements		
Target Completion	2026	Current Position	Some areas audited
Resource Allocation	Officer and Councillor time		
Measure of Success	Audit completed and Action Plan in place through the Committee		

Project	The Hub		
Description	Replace the roof, heating system, and other improvements		
Target Completion	2027	Current Position	Successful CIL bid
Resource Allocation	CIL money, Officer and Councillor time, other options for financing		
Measure of Success	The Hub is a sustainable, accessible, useful, safe and welcoming venue		



Leisure, Amenities, and Environment Committee

Project	Complete the Green Infrastructure Plan		
Description	Work towards our carbon-neutral target by safeguarding our green spaces		
Target Completion	2030	Current Position	Action Plan & TFG in place
Resource Allocation	The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group budget		
Measure of Success	Completed plan		

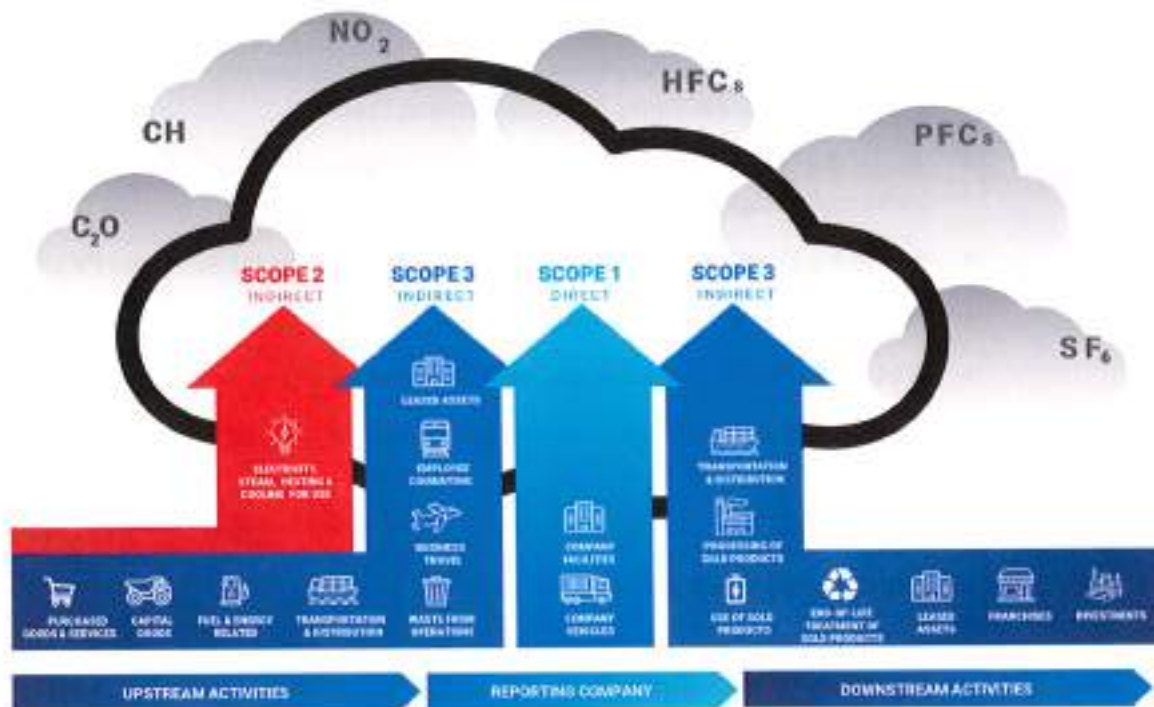
Project	Consultation on Sports & Leisure facilities		
Description	Carry out a public consultation on possible improvements to sports and leisure facilities in Peacehaven		
Target Completion	2026	Current Position	Not started
Resource Allocation	Officer and Councillor time, printing		
Measure of Success	Feedback from consultation submitted to Full Council		





OVESCO

OUSE VALLEY ENERGY SERVICES COMPANY



- Replace the Café Biomass boiler with an air source heat pump.
- Install a battery system to ensure longer hour use of renewable energy and cheap electricity use during low PV generation times.
- Assess the feasibility of installing PV systems on the existing carpark at Hub for additional energy generation.
- Establish a direct line connection to Peacehaven Football Club for excess PV sale.
- Investigate further PV for Community Hub.
- Replace gas boilers at Community Hub with air source heat pumps.
- Work with Peacehaven School to establish a direct line for PV generation supply to Community Centre.

Long-Term Actions (2028-2030):

- Install solar panel (PV) installations on the East Sussex County Council roof adjacent to Community House.
- Work towards complete on-site renewable energy generation for all facilities. This requires ongoing communication with the Morrisons proposed development.

Behavioural Change

- Build awareness amongst local businesses and residents of the impact of their decisions on our journey to Net Zero.
- Run communications campaigns to educate and drive awareness around events such as World Environment Day.
- Host workshops to educate the community on reducing carbon footprints.
- Conduct annual review of emissions data sources, processes and methodology, emissions categories and business reporting structure.
- Work with PTC's suppliers to encourage them to record their own carbon emissions and set realistic carbon reduction targets.

Conclusion

This decarbonisation plan provides options for Peacehaven Town Council to achieve its net-zero carbon goals by eliminating all Scope 1 & 2 emissions before 2030.

Projects and carbon reduction

PTC is in process of delivering Hub Improvements this includes heat pump and Solar PV.

With Heat pump installed at the Hub therefore making the energy use onsite fully electric. The Hub and Café site Scope 2 emissions become **10.45 tCO₂e** Scope 3 **3.45 tCO₂e**

Hub roof PV

The installation of a 15.84 kWp PV array at Peacehaven Hub roof has the potential to generate 15,840kWh of electricity annually, with 13511.52 kWh 85.3% being used on site. PTC's Scope 2 emissions would be reduced by 2.8 tCO₂e.

Potential Scope 2 reduction 26.79% Associated Scope 3 reduction 57.03%

Carport PV, EV and battery

With the Hub heat pump and PV installed.

Installation of carports, 10kWh battery, 1 EV charger and a 35.6 kWp PV array in the car park of the Hub and Gateway Café. PTC Hub and Café are modelled to use 81.1% of the energy generated on site, this would reduce Scope 2 emissions by 11.85 tCO₂e. Any unused energy could be exported to the grid avoiding emissions elsewhere.

Potential Scope 2 reduction 41.48% Associated Scope 3 reduction 4.34%

Hub heat pump, roof PV Carport PV, EV and battery

These two projects together shifts the site's to electricity energy use will reduce the planned Hub and café CO₂ emissions by 11.85 tonnes CO₂ e.

Potential Scope 2 reduction 97.93% Associated Scope 3 reduction 57%

The following measures would need further investigation to allow calculation of potential emission reductions, however all would contribute positively to meeting PTC's Net Zero targets.

Immediate Actions (2025-2026):

- Carry out the planned works at the Hub building.
- Carry out planned rectification measures at the Café. This includes the hot water heating system and solar thermal panels.
- Replace the PV inverter at the Café.
- Install smart meters to monitor real-time energy use.

Medium-Term Actions (2026-2027):

Proposed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

The proposed carbon reduction initiatives concentrate solely on Scope 1 & 2 emissions and the associated Scope 3 category 'Fuel & Energy Related Activities' as measured by Auditel for the period April 2023 to March 2024.

Scope 1

Currently Scope 1 emissions consist of 30.26 tCO₂e caused by the use of natural gas at both the Hub and Community Centre, with the remaining 3.08 tCO₂e attributable to the use of diesel in council vehicles and petrol to power the tools used in park maintenance.

1. Natural Gas

In order to meet PTC's target of zero Scope 1 emissions by 2030, steps will need to be taken to phase out the use of natural gas. A study should be carried out to assess the feasibility of transitioning from natural gas to heat pumps at both buildings. Removing the use of natural gas would not only stop 30.26 tCO₂e of direct emissions from being added to the atmosphere each year, but also a further 5.0 tCO₂e of indirect emissions (Scope 3).

Potential Scope 1 reduction 90.76% Associated Scope 3 reduction 41.6%

2. Fuel for vehicles/tools

Transitioning from diesel powered to electric vehicles (EV's) for the council fleet would reduce PTC's carbon footprint by 2.38 tCO₂e (assuming the vehicles could be charged via one of the PV installations suggested to reduce reliance on the National Grid for electricity use). Replacing petrol- powered tools with rechargeable battery powered tools would remove a further 0.7 tCO₂e.

Potential Scope 1 reduction 9.24% Associated Scope 3 reduction 6.41%

Scope 2

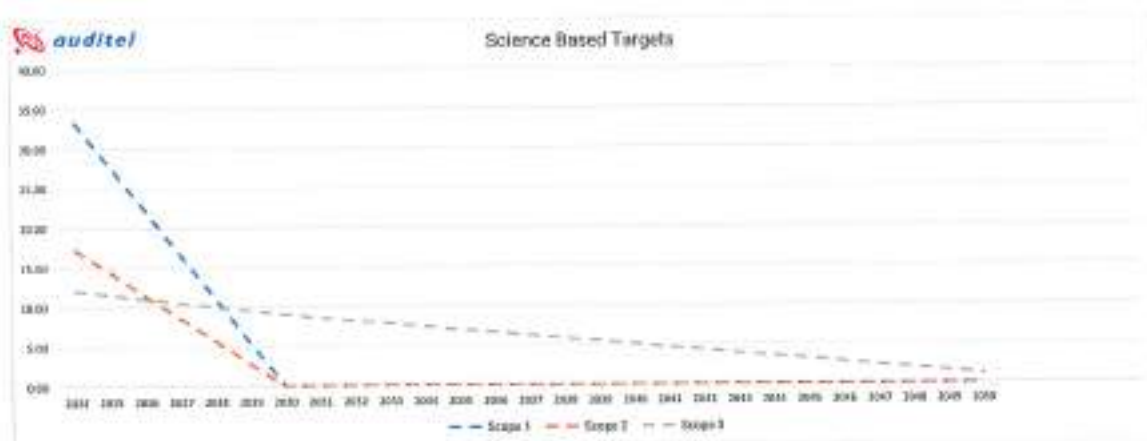
Scope 2 emissions of 17.25 tCO₂e are due to the use of electricity in PTC's buildings. A further 6.25 tCO₂e of indirect (Scope 3) emissions are created during the generation, transmission & distribution of the energy used. PTC purchases 100% renewable energy from their electricity supplier but in order to exclude all Scope 2 emissions from our carbon footprint REGO (Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin) certificates need to be obtained.

Although certificates would reduce PTC's measured Scope 2 emissions to zero, it would not reduce costs, nor reduce reliance on the National Grid. Implementation of the measures suggested below would not only achieve these two aims but also allow PTC to sell unused energy back to the grid thereby avoiding emissions elsewhere and creating an income stream.

- PTC is targeting Net Zero-emissions across all our activities by 2050. This target includes the full activity of our supply chain working with us.
- PTC aim for 100% reduction in Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 2030, from a 2023/24 baseline.

Scope	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037
1	33.34	27.78	22.23	16.67	11.11	5.56	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	17.25	14.38	11.50	8.63	5.75	2.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	12.02	11.52	11.02	10.52	10.02	9.52	9.02	8.62	8.23	7.84	7.45	7.06	6.67	6.28
Total	62.61	53.68	44.75	35.81	26.88	17.95	9.02	8.62	8.23	7.84	7.45	7.06	6.67	6.28

	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050
1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	5.89	5.50	5.11	4.72	4.33	3.94	3.55	3.16	2.76	2.37	1.98	1.59	1.20
Total	5.89	5.50	5.11	4.72	4.33	3.94	3.55	3.16	2.76	2.37	1.98	1.59	1.20



Baseline emissions footprint

Baseline Year: 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Our baseline emissions inventory includes all our measurable scope 1 & 2 emissions as well as Scope 3 emissions relating to Fuel & Energy Related Activities. We include all seven Kyoto Protocol Greenhouse Gas groups in our emissions footprint calculations. PTC's carbon footprint was first measured in 2024 for the baseline year of 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.

From this, carbon reduction targets have been developed.

2023/24 Carbon Footprint Summary

Scope 1 emissions were responsible for 53.25% of our 2023/24 carbon footprint, with the largest emitter being natural gas, which was responsible for 30.26 tCO₂e (48.3%). The remaining Scope 1 emissions were due to fuel used in vehicles and maintenance equipment.

Scope 2 emissions from electricity were responsible for 17.25 tCO₂e (27.55%) and the remaining 12.02 tCO₂e (19.2%) were due to Scope 3 emissions from Fuel and Energy Related Activities (Well to Tank, Transmission & Distribution of fuels).

The EDF Energy invoices provided stated that the electricity was supplied on a 100% renewable electricity tariff, however without copies of the REGO Certificates (Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin Certificates) we were unable to exclude emissions from the carbon footprint report.

Emissions by Scope:

Scope Category	tCO ₂ e	% of Footprint
1	33.34	53.25%
2	17.25	27.55%
3	12.02	19.2%
Total	62.61	100%

Emissions reduction targets

The pathway to Net Zero has been developed as part of PTC's engagement with Auditel.

Auditel adopt the Absolute Contraction Approach on a cross-sector basis. Mainly a 42% reduction in scope 1&2 emissions by 2030, then a reduction to 90% by 2050. For scope 3 emissions Auditel adopt standard corporate guidance of 25% reduction by 2030 and 90% by 2050. In line with a conservative approach, we are setting targets on the basis Scope 3 emissions are 40% or more of total emissions, regardless of if they are or not once measured.

In order to achieve Net Zero, we have adopted the following carbon reduction targets.

Executive Summary

Background

- The need for taking immediate and bold action on climate change is being increasingly recognised by businesses, government and the general population.
- The amount of action that needs to be taken, and the speed at which this must be done has been recognised by the UK through its ratification of the Paris climate agreement – to limit the global average temperature rise to well below 2°C.
- Consequently, the UK has declared a climate emergency, and the independent committee on climate change has laid out what needs to be done for the UK to become net-zero carbon by 2050.
- Peacehaven Town Council has acknowledged their role in the need to act and have themselves decided to develop a strategy to achieve net zero carbon emissions.

Reporting Standards and Scope

The calculations of PTC's carbon footprint is in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard for Scopes 1 & 2.

OVECO employs Auditel as the consultancy providing carbon accounting services for PTC. Auditel undertake a series of quality assurance checks in line with industry best practice to ensure that the Greenhouse Gas statements represent a faithful, true, and fair account of PTC's GHG emissions from the data available.

The process follows the principles of ISAE3410, Assurance Engagements on Greenhouse Gas Statements standard, but is not a formal assurance to the standard currently. It is carried out to ensure that the statement is considered materially correct, a fair representation of the Scope 1 & 2 Greenhouse Gases emitted and is prepared in alignment with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol and the relevant activities of PTC.

Commitment to achieving Net Zero

PTC is committed to achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050 at the latest, in line with the UK Government target.

With regards to our scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions, which relate to our own use of fuel & energy for our own operations and is under our control, we will achieve Net Zero by 2030.

OVESCO CIC & Auditel are working with Peacehaven Town Council to decarbonise their Estate. The focus for the Decarbonisation Plan is the three buildings under PTC's ownership:

- Community House, Meridian Centre, Peacehaven BN10 8BB
- Gateway Café, Peacehaven Sports Park, Piddinghoe Ave, Peacehaven BN10 8RH
- The Hub, Centenary Park, Piddinghoe Ave, Peacehaven BN10 8RH



Context

Climate change is a real and immediate threat for us all. Carbon dioxide (CO₂) levels have already reached their highest level for almost half a million years and are rising faster than ever. Like all organisations, PTC has a key role to play in mitigating the effects of climate change, both as an employer and through the services they provide.

PTC's climate change challenge falls into:

- Cutting the organisations carbon footprint
- Preparing for the impacts of a changing climate

Aside from the moral and environmental case for taking action to tackle climate change there are many other drivers for PTC to address this issue. These include:

- Leadership - Taking strategic action towards reducing carbon emissions will ensure that PTC can lead the way in developing effective mechanisms to tackle climate change. This will help stimulate low carbon transitions across the regions in which we operate.
- Cost savings - With increasing pressure on all organisations to cut costs, reducing the amount spent on energy bills is a key driver for lowering our energy consumption.
- Reputation - With stretching national targets, there is increasing pressure on organisations to be seen as "doing their bit" and playing a leadership role on climate change action. Failure to act could lead to reputational risks and adversely affect the company's public image.

Summary of the Organisation

Peacehaven Town Council (PTC) provide a range of local services and community facilities to a population of approximately 15,700 people living in Peacehaven, which is a small town on the South Coast of England situated between the city of Brighton & Hove (to the East) and Newhaven (to the West).

PTC is responsible for:

- The maintenance of several local parks, green spaces, sports and recreational facilities
- The provision of grants for local projects and organisations, and halls for social clubs and meetings
- Hosting local events for the benefit of the Community

One of PTC's core values is to promote sustainability and nature recovery, improve the infrastructure of the community & safeguard the heritage and biodiversity of the town. In 2019 PTC declared a Climate Emergency and pledged to make PTC Carbon Neutral by 2030

PTC have already adopted goals for improving their environmental impacts, community, and overall sustainability and have systematically considered the climate change impact of each area of the Council's activities.

Carbon Reduction Plan for Peacehaven Town Council

Foreword

Peacehaven Town Council (PTC) recognises how important it is for us to make sure we are committed to reducing our carbon emissions and the impact we have on the environment in everything we do. This Carbon Reduction Plan (CRP) sets out how we will continue to improve the ways in which we use our resources to ensure the least harm to our environment.

Each year this grows in importance as our awareness is raised on the critical importance of changing our behaviours regarding climate change and sustainability. Legislation and regulation reflect this priority and we are committed to ensuring we meet our requirements and where possible exceed expectations.

Whether we are thinking of how to travel to work, what cup to drink from, how we design a new product, where we hold a meeting and the myriad of choices we make in our daily life, having carbon underpinning every choice we make and every action we take must be integral to us delivering our vision, mission, and strategic goals.

This year we have calculated our Scope 1 & 2 carbon footprint and the engagement with our staff has proved very useful in helping us to identify where we need to change our behaviour and how to do it. This has helped us to prioritise the key areas we want to focus on for the next year as outlined in the detailed action plan. We also recognise that many of the measures we plan to take to reduce our carbon footprint will also help us operate more efficiently, cut costs, and go some way to protecting us from the inevitable future increases to fuel and energy costs.

Using the information gathered and working with our dedicated staff, we will be able to set challenging targets and report our progress on the journey to Net Zero.

Introduction

This Carbon Reduction Plan conforms to the requirements of Procurement Policy Note PPN06/21; "Taking Account of Carbon Reduction Plans in the procurement of major government contracts", PAS2060:2014 "Specification for the demonstration of Carbon Neutrality" and ISO14064-1 for the reduction of Scope 1 & 2 emissions.



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability	Agenda Item:	ES12
Meeting date:	18 th November 2025	Authors:	Town Clerk
Subject:	Carbon Reporting		
Purpose:	To agree a process for reporting carbon emissions.		

Recommendation(s):

To agree a process for reporting carbon emissions.

1. Background

PTC has committed to achieving carbon net-zero by 2030, and whilst positive actions towards this have been taken (and continue to be taken), we do not know how far we have come towards this goal, or how far there is still to go, as we are not regularly calculating our Carbon emissions.

Carbon emissions are categorised in 3 scopes;

Scope 1 – Direct emissions (emissions on site)

Scope 2 – Indirect emissions (emissions from generation of energy/ utilities)

Scope 3 – Indirect emissions (emissions from supply chains)

Getting companies in to complete carbon reporting is expensive as it's a time consuming task – the Community House decarbonisation report from BHESCO cost £3570+VAT, so there would need to be a budget in place if PTC were going to outsource this work.

Alternatively, we could consider training someone in-house to be able to do this reporting – the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals offer a training course for between £395 - £455+VAT (<https://www.bywater.co.uk/course/carbon-footprinting-and-reporting-training-course>), however, consideration would need to be given for the time required to actually undertake the calculations.

2. Options for Council

- Discuss the need and frequency of undertaking carbon reporting, including whether all 3 scopes are to be included.
- Agree a recommendation around outsourcing or reporting in house, to be sent to the appropriate Committee for consideration.

3. Reason for recommendation

In line with working towards carbon net-zero.

4. Expected benefits

Supporting the Councils decarbonisation initiatives.

5. Implications

5.1 Legal	
5.2 Risks	
5.3 Financial	
5.4 Time scales	
5.5 Stakeholders & Social Value	
5.6 Contracts	
5.7 Climate & Sustainability	
5.8 Crime & Disorder	
5.9 Health & Safety	
5.10 Biodiversity	
5.11 Privacy Impact	
5.12 Equality & Diversity	

6. Values & priorities alignment

Which of the Core Values does the recommendation demonstrate?	
6.1 Empowering and supporting the community	☐
6.2 Growing the economy sustainably	☐
6.3 Helping children and young people	☐
6.4 Improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to Peacehaven	☐
6.5 Supporting residents in need	☐
6.6 Valuing the environment	☒

6.7 Which business plan item(s) does the recommendation relate to? Carbon Net-Zero.

7. Appendices

None



PEACEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
MERIDIAN CENTRE
MERIDIAN WAY
PEACEHAVEN
BN10 8BB

The Climate Emergency Motion was adopted by Peacehaven Town Council on 23rd July 2019

On 23rd July 2019, Peacehaven Town Council declared a Climate Emergency. With less than 12 years to switch away from fossil fuels to avoid the worst impacts of Climate Change. Reducing energy use and switching to clean energy will also increase energy security, improve air quality, minimise fuel poverty, boost the local economy and provide jobs and training.

It was proposed that Peacehaven Town Council declares a climate emergency and commits to going carbon neutral by 2030. This will help to raise the profile of this vital issue and secure external funding. It is also proposed that Peacehaven Town Council signs up to the Covenant of Mayors to track our progress and link with towns around the world who are cutting emissions.

It is now 2023 and the impacts of climate change are being felt all around the world with wildfires, flooding and drought. It is having a significant impact on food supplies. We are fast approaching and likely to exceed to 1.5 degree target set by the IPCC in October 2018.

There are just seven years left for Peacehaven Town Council to achieve its stated aim of being carbon neutral by 2030. Some progress has been made and plans are in place.

The focus of the next three years must be on our buildings and the redevelopment of the Meridian Centre by Morrisons gives us that opportunity.



PEACEHAVEN TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
MERIDIAN CENTRE
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BN10 8BB

Peacehaven Town Council Environment & Sustainability Action Plan

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
General Actions				
G1 Climate Change Strategy Policy to write			Review Lewes District Council document. Discuss with Town Clerk	
G2 Audit of the Peacehaven Town Council's activities that impact on its carbon footprint.			Keep it simple. A report needs to go the Policy and Finance for funding.	
G3 Training for Staff, Officers and Councillors on climate change and Sustainable Procurement training.			Climate policy to be included in the staff handbook.	
G4 Ideas for Climate Change – A Green competition for staff with a prize, so everyone can come up with an idea to "save the planet" in the New Year. Ideas to be collated into a document for staff.			No progress to date.	

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN – INTERNAL EMISSIONS

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
B1 Biodiversity and Carbon Capture To identify suitable land and enable tree planting within the town.	2030	LAE Committee	A Tree Warden scheme was discussed at LAE Committee on 8/9/21. Agreed to advertise to setup an autonomous Tree Wardens Group. A resident has come forward and is interested in coordinating this.	
B2 Improve grass cutting practices of grass verges and greenspaces to encourage Wildflowers and Pollinators		LAE Committee Parks Officer	Management Plans to be devised for all Council owned Parks. The Dell has a draft plan available.	
B3 To protect the Existing Trees of Peacehaven		Planning & Highways Committee	It was agreed at the Planning & Highways Meeting of 15th August 2023 that: 1. LDC TPO officers be asked to publish a map of all TPOs and TPO areas in Peacehaven (as e.g. Tunbridge Wells has done) 2. Copies of the 1992 TPO order be hand delivered as soon as possible by volunteer councillors to all dwellings within or bordering the Valley Road TPO areas. 3. Over time, LDC TPO officers be asked to identify all current landowners affected by ALL TPOs in Peacehaven and send copies to them so that the Downlands Walk problems are not repeated and Peacehaven's few remaining bits of woodland/outstanding individual trees are protected. A TPO has been submitted for 10 beech trees in the Valley area. A TPO has been submitted for the Weeping Willow north of the Meridian Centre.	
B4 Reduce or eliminate the use of Pesticides on District Council land and lobby ESOC to do the same.		Climate Change WP	Glyphosate has been eliminated from Town Council land. Discuss other use of pesticides with the Parks Officer.	

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
B5	Morrisons Redevelopment	2023	Climate Change WP	The working party to review the detailed landscaping plans and net gain biodiversity plans when available. Bat boxes will be included in the redevelopment.
B6	New bus shelters and existing ones when they need to be replaced should include green roofs subject to funding.			Ongoing maintenance with the 2 existing sedum roof bus shelters
Assets & Buildings				
A1	To ensure that all Council owned buildings are carbon neutral by 2030.	2030	Community House Sub Committee	Community House Retro fit buildings instead of knocking them down. Reduce energy use and carbon emissions. A decision was taken to retain the existing building and retrofit. Need to see Morrisons proposals for Community House.
		2026	Community House Sub Committee	Building needs to be insulated.
		2026	Community House Sub Committee	Cladding of the outside of low level areas have been agreed with Morrisons to make it look modern to fit in with new Meridian Centre
		2026	Community House Sub Committee	Consider a green wall for south facing areas. Need to get information and quotes.
		2026	Community House Sub Committee	A new porch on the west side of the building has been agreed with Morrisons. This will be brick built with glazing on west side. This is a significant area and could be used for reception and information areas. Décor to be decided.

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
	2026	Community House Sub Committee	Windows need replacing to open in reception and office, for ventilation, to be double glazed and ensure outside windows will be secure. This is included in the Morrisons Plans	
	2024	Policy & Finance Committee	The Heat Pump Heating/Cooling system for the hall needs replacing as spare parts are no longer available. One of the two units does not work. Heatcraft visited 24/8/23 and j have provided a quote. This is in excess of £25,000 and go to tender. Grants and funding to be sourced. The refund from British Gas from Solar Panels has been agreed to be used for the replacement heating system for the hall. The new system will be significantly more efficient and will save on running costs.	
	2025	Policy & Finance Committee	The Gas Boiler system that provides hot water and feeds radiators in all rooms needs replacing as spare parts are no longer available. Heatcraft visited 24/8/23 and will provide a quote. Pipework and radiators will need to be replaced at the same time. This will be in excess of £25,000 and will need to go to tender. Grants and funding to be sourced. the new system will be significantly more efficient and will save on running costs. Replacing this with a like for like gas boiler will not meet the Council's 2030 target to be net zero carbon.	
			Lighting system, potential to save energy with automatic lighting controls.	
			Rainwater harvesting for toilets.	
			To review kitchen equipment, existing gas hob too overpowered for what we need. Some kitchen users leave the hob on. When not in use.	
	2030	LAE Committee	The Hub Leaking roof has been temporarily repaired.	

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
			The HUB has an EPC rating of 'C' C1110 - A decision has been taken to retrofit the Hub. A replacement roof and new heating systems being a priority and will be considered by the LAE Committee. A budget should then be agreed for ongoing maintenance'	
	2030	Climate Change WP	Gateway Café Café is aware of our single use plastic policy. New lease was finalised on 19/9/23. Consider removal of the woodchip burner The Café has an EPC rating of 'A'	
Energy				
E1	2023	All Staff	To investigate other potential savings of energy.	
E2	2030	Climate Change WP	Contracts signed with EDF and www.crowncommercial.gov.uk for Zero Carbon Electricity (Nuclear) Renewable Energy to be sourced. On hold as it is more expensive.	
E3	2030	Policy & Finance Committee	No new Gas Appliances to be purchased. Report to write with proposal to be made to next policy and finance	
E4		Community House Sub Committee	Consider replacement solar panels and battery system which will be more efficient.	
E5		Planning & Highways Committee	Report sent to Planning & Highways Committee on 10 th Oct 2020. There are 3 streetlights in the Valley Road area and more in Firle Road and Blakeney Avenue. It is recommended that these sodium lamps are replaced with LED lighting. This is being progressed through Planning & Highways and Leisure and Amenities Committees. Agreed by P&F to implement. Meeting with the Lighting Supervisor Eric Ware held on 1/2/22.	
Procurement				

	Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
E6	Produce a Council Sustainable Procurement Policy with a focus on local and sustainable purchasing.		Climate Change WP	A Sustainable Procurement Policy needs to be written and implemented. Based on LDC policy and updated. Check progress at LDC.	
	Vehicle and Equipment Emissions				
V1	To replace equipment used by Ground Staff with zero carbon options.	2025/2026	Parks Officer	NO Pending equipment	
	Water				
W1	To reduce the Council's use of water			Consider alternative sources such as water harvesting on the Hub building and Cafe.	

CLIMATE EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN –EMISSIONS WE CAN INFLUENCE

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
Events & Community Engagement				
EC1 Town Clerk to advertise the setting up of the Citizen's Panel and recruit members of the public.		Climate Change WP	Cllr Sharkey to investigate possibility Citizens Panel for Fashion. Some other groups would overlap with NDP plans for citizens panels. To be discussed with NDP Steering Group. To be discussed with the new Town Clerk.	
EC2 To support local food growing initiatives by making suitable land available.		Community Group	Community Garden - A management committee has been formed to oversee the management of the garden. Social Prescribing has been discussed with Dr Preston. Contact has been made with the Social Prescriber at Havens Health. No interest to date. The community garden uses no external water or electricity. Plants and seeds are sustainably sourced usually through seed swaps. Food produced is shared with community. Use of plastic is avoided wherever practical.	
		LAE Committee	Allotments - We currently have a significant waiting list for allotments. Suitable sites were identified but these were not taken forward by Council due to legal difficulties. Further sites to be identified by LAE Committee.	
		Community Group	Community Orchard - The community orchard has a licence in place to create and manage a community orchard. The site is now protected in perpetuity by a Deed of Dedication and the Orchard has a detailed management plan in place. The Orchard is considered a Priority Habitat for planning purposes and is registered as a traditional orchard.	
	2027	Climate Change WP	Consider a community growing space within the new shopping centre. Similar to outside Morrisons in Seafood. Involve Horticultural Society. Discuss with Morrisons.	

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
	Ongoing	Volunteers	The Apple Tree in the Meridian Centre will be retained. This will need looking after and pruning. Further attempts will be made to graft new trees in early 2024.	Ongoing
EC3 To include Green Pages on the Councils website.		Civic & Events Committee	To be taken forward by Communications Officer. What the Town Council is doing? What could residents do? How can you save energy. Poster approach works well. Links to local companies and information Fruit and Vegetable growing Useful recipes to use food you would throw away. Publicise WWF Footprint calculator? Some progress has been made. To be reviewed and discussed with Town Clerk. https://www.peacehaventowncouncil.gov.uk/climate-pages/climate-emergency-action/	
EC4 Clean Peacehaven				
EC5 Climate Emergency Working Group to link with other agencies including LDC, ESCC, NHS, MP and other Town Councils and other sectors including housing and health.		Climate Change WP	No actions yet	
EC6 To create community events to engage residents in climate change.		Climate Change WP	Consider events for 2026 OVCA have funding for climate related events	
EC7 To set up a Climate Hub		Climate Change WP Volunteers	OVCA have some funding for this Lots of volunteers needed	
Energy				
EV1 To provide a network of EV Charging Points to enable to take up of electric vehicles in the town.		Climate Change WP	There is one EV charging point in Peacehaven at the ESSO Garage.	

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
			It is LDC's intention to install charging points in all LDC carparks by 2025, however Peacehaven is not included in the current plans where Lewes District Council is installing 64 public charging points for electric vehicles across 11 of its car parks. Write to the Cabinet Member for Sustainability. Consider locations for EV Charging Point on PTC land e.g. Centenary Park.	
EV2	LDC Planning Policy	LDC Planners Planning & Highways Committee	LDC Planners include conditions on new dwellings to include charging points.	
EV3	Community engagement	Climate Change WP	Discuss events for residents to give advice on how to insulate homes, install heat pumps and solar PV etc. on a regular basis.	
Transport				
T1	Car Share Scheme	Climate Change WP	Enterprise Car Club is now operating in Chalkers Rise. It is a self-charging hybrid. An additional car has been placed in Saltdean and there are plans for one in Rottingdean. It is so successful that the Peacehaven Car is never available. Two cars at Chalkers Rise and one at the Meridian centre are in the S106 agreement. This has partially been superseded by the Morrisons Plans.	
			Meridian Centre space has still not happened. TROs are required to be put in place. Chargers included in the Morrisons plans.	
T2	Cycle Network - To work in partnership with the ESCC and other stakeholders on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.(LCWIP)	Planning & Highways Committee	The ESCC Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plan will be reporting shortly and will include plans for the "Peacehaven Loop" National Cycle Route No 2 along Arundel Road is dangerous. Plans for a cycle route through Centenary Park and along the edge of the School Playing field cannot be progressed until there is agreement from the school which so far has been refused.	

Action	Target Date	Responsible	Notes	Date Completed
Waste				
R1 To enable the recycling of hard to recycle materials in the community.		Climate Change WP	Consider the possibility of creating a recycling directory for items not recycled by Lewes District Council e.g. crisp packets, tetra packs – New PTC website Green Pages? Plans are being made to do this on a district scale	
R2 Help develop / support local reuse and repair schemes which divert waste, e.g. Freecycle, Freegle, Tetracycle and Repair Cafés etc.		Climate Change WP	Joint Climate Change Working Party met with repair Café organisers in Rottingdean. Joined the Southeast region repair café group who can provide lots of information and support. An organiser is needed for a repair café to go forward.	
		Climate Change WP	Freecycle, Freegle & Tetracycle to be promoted through the Councils Green Pages and social media.	
R3 To eliminate the use of Single Use Plastics wherever possible.		Office	Events organised by PTC must avoid the use of single use plastic	
		ES committee	Review invoices to see what we are buying.	
			We need to recycle more – at least 50%	



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability	Agenda Item:	ES16.
Meeting date:	18 th November 2025	Authors:	Cllr Sue Griffiths
Subject:	A Sustainable Procurement Policy		
Purpose:	To bring Councils commitment to environment & sustainable stewardship into the buying process		

Recommendation(s):

To agree to set up a TFG to write a Sustainable Procurement Policy and to agree that the results from the TFG are sent straight to the Policy and Finance Committee

1. Background

Although a Sustainable Procurement Policy is not something that our nearest Town Councils have, Lewes, Newhaven and Seaford, there are many across the country that have them. A quick Google search can evidence this. They are an essential tool in reducing a Councils carbon footprint.

2. Options for Committee

- a) To set up a TFG to write a Sustainable Procurement Policy
- b) That the TFG send the document directly to the Policy and Finance Committee

3. Reason for recommendation

- a) To aid in the reduction of Peacehaven Town Council's carbon footprint.
- b) To facilitate the quickest route within the normal council procedures.

4. Expected benefits

A reduction in Peacehaven Town Council's Carbon footprint.

5. Implications

5.1 Legal	
5.2 Risks	
5.3 Financial	
5.4	
5.5 Stakeholders & Social Value	
5.6 Contracts	May have some impact
5.7 Climate & Sustainability	Reducing the PTC carbon footprint
5.8 Crime & Disorder	
5.9 Health & Safety	
5.10 Biodiversity	
5.11 Privacy Impact	
5.12 Equality & Diversity	

6. Values & priorities alignment

Which of the Core Values does the recommendation demonstrate?	
6.1 Empowering and supporting the community	☐
6.2 Growing the economy sustainably	☒
6.3 Helping children and young people	☐
6.4 Improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to Peacehaven	☒
6.5 Supporting residents in need	☐
6.6 Valuing the environment	☒

6.7 Which business plan item(s) does the recommendation relate to? This committee does not have a business plan at the time of writing.
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7. Appendices



Committee:	Environment & Sustainability	Agenda Item:	ES15
Meeting date:	18 th November 2025	Authors:	Cllr. Sue Griffiths
Subject:	Local Nature Recovery Strategy Consultation		
Purpose:	To decide on a response and to set up a TFG		

Recommendation(s):

That Committee discuss and agree a response to the consultation and forms a TFG to look at the details relating to Peacehaven.

1. Background

This is the first Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) which is now out for consultation. It has been informed by the views and expertise of nearly 1,000 people and organisations and serves as a vital blueprint to help us target action for nature across the area.

It provides 7 principles and 24 priorities for nature's recovery, supported by over 100 potential actions that could be taken to deliver them. There is also a local habitat map showing where many of these actions could be taken.

2. Options for Council

- a) To agree a response to the consultation and to form a TFG to look at the details relating to Peacehaven.
- b) To ignore the consultation

3. Reason for recommendation

The consultation gives us the opportunity to help shape the new strategy for our own area before it is published

4. Expected benefits

Improvement to the environment for the benefit of nature and our residents.

5. Implications

5.1 Legal	
5.2 Risks	
5.3 Financial	
5.4 Time scales	Deadline for response is the 26 th November
5.5 Stakeholders & Social Value	
5.6 Contracts	
5.7 Climate & Sustainability	Nature recovery has a positive impact on climate change
5.8 Crime & Disorder	
5.9 Health & Safety	
5.10 Biodiversity	Will create more biodiversity therefore making a more balanced environment.
5.11 Privacy Impact	
5.12 Equality & Diversity	

6. Values & priorities alignment

Which of the Core Values does the recommendation demonstrate?	
6.1 Empowering and supporting the community	☐
6.2 Growing the economy sustainably	☐
6.3 Helping children and young people	☐
6.4 Improving the quality of life for residents and visitors to Peacehaven	☒
6.5 Supporting residents in need	☐
6.6 Valuing the environment	☒

6.7 Which business plan item(s) does the recommendation relate to? At the time of writing, there is no business plan for this committee.
--

7. Appendices

East Sussex and Brighton & Hove LNRS

Help shape your Local Nature Recovery Strategy

Page 1 of 9

About you

This consultation is suitable for those aged 16 and above.

Where in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove do you live?

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Brighton & Hove
- ☐ Eastbourne
- ☐ Hastings
- ☒ Lewes
- ☐ Rother
- ☐ Wealden
- ☐ I don't live in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove but I work there
- ☐ I don't live or work in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove

Which of the below best describes you? (select one)

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Farmer, Forester, Landowner or Land manager (someone who owns or manages land)
- ☐ Resident or a member of a local community group or voluntary sector organisation
- ☐ Business (large or small across all sectors) , Industry and Economy
- ☒ Public body (Local government, town and parish councils etc)
- ☐ Nature and environment sector (NGOs, individuals with expertise in nature or managing land for conservation purposes)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or an individual?

(Choose any one option)

- ☐ Individual
- ☒ Organisation (please specify which one)

If you're responding as an organisation, please tell us which one

Peasehaven Town Council

Your awareness of this LNRS

Had you already heard about the strategy before consultation?

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Yes
☒ No
☐ Not sure

Answer this question only if you have chosen Yes for Had you already heard about the strategy before public consultation?

Where you involved or engaged in some way in this LNRS?

Tick ANY that apply

- ☐ Watched a webinar
☐ Responded to a survey
☐ Added pins to the interactive map
☐ Received a newsletter or an LNRS email
☐ Attended a workshop
☐ Visited the website
☐ Attended a meeting or presentation
☐ Emailed the Sussex Nature Recovery Team or County Council
☐ Other (please specify)

Do you consider you have a good understanding of the purpose of Local Nature Recovery Strategies?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☒ Not sure

Your feedback on the different parts of this LNRS

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove is split into four parts, each with a corresponding document (the PDFs that you can read and download from: www.yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/lnrs-east)

Parts 1 and 2 contain the main elements of the LNRS. Part 3 has additional recommendations related to Species, and Part 4 has supporting technical detail. The following questions relate to the information contained in Parts 1 to 3.

Considering the strategy generally, how easy to read, clearly laid out and visually engaging do you find it?

Questions	Very	Quite	Not very	Not at all	Not sure
Easy to read	✓				
Clearly laid out		✓			
Visually engaging			✓		

If you answered **not very** or **not at all** to the question above, how could we make the strategy generally better?

Use simpler language.

The next questions relate to Part 1

Considering Part 1 Section 4: Nature in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove - Description. Does this effectively set the scene for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove's current land use, the condition of the natural environment and the pressures it faces?

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Yes
☒ Partially
☐ No
☐ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered **No** or **Partially** to the question above, how might we make the **Description** better?

Peacehaven became aware of this LNRS exercise very late - that may also be true of other places. So please improve and extend information before finalising. One new space that we ask you to consider across the whole LNRS is the 'dry' Valley Road area of Peacehaven, which is surrounded on three sides by SDNP, and, at time of high rainfall, floods down to the Ouse and C7 north of Piddinghoe. With its ecology protected by High Court action by Lewes District in the 1990s, it is now under serious threat from developers who are already cutting down trees, including in TPO areas. This area is the perfect large stepping stone for biodiversity protection and nature recovery: (a) westward arm from Weald to Waves Ouse Valley north south 'arm' and SDNP envelope; (b) mixed geology including clay, means many habitats within a small area (farmed landscape, species rich grassland, woodland, hedgerows and scrub, dewponds); (c) species rich: 3,358 records of protected and designated species at Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre (SBRC), of which 33 have international significance and 102 national designations. The Local Nature Reserve at east end of Valley Road will probably be too small for ecological viability by itself and be destroyed by development close by if the rest of the rectangle sticking up into the SDNP is permitted to be built over.

The next questions relate to Part 2

Looking at the Seven Principles for Nature Recovery in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove (found in Part 2 Section 3) - do they help you understand the issues impacting nature in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove and how we might respond to them?

Tick ONE box only

- ☒ Yes
☒ Partially
☐ No
☐ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered not very or not at all to the question above, how could we make the principles better?

Principle 1: 'Core areas of important habitat' list should be kept open - Valley Road Peacehaven should be added for reasons given elsewhere.
Principle 2: Dune part of Weald to Waves needs a West-bound spur up to Valley Road, Peacehaven, to act as a 'stepping stone'.
Principle 3: Unexpected resilience of Peacehaven Clifftop, due to undercliff protection and Rampion 'coral reef' effect? means current policy of maintaining groynes etc. beyond current proposed end date would be cost-beneficial.

Looking at the 24 Priorities for nature's recovery in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove (found in Part 2, Section 4), do they capture everything you feel strongly about?

Tick ONE box only

- ☒ Yes
☒ Partially
☐ No
☐ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered not very or not at all to the question above, how could we make the priorities better?

W.1. 'Protect and enhance' - developers are cutting down trees everywhere!
SWB.1. Specific mention for 'dew ponds'?
S.1. ...including sites that emerge in future.

Looking at the 106 Measures for nature's recovery in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove (found in Part 2 Section 4), are they generally written in a way that feels practical and easy to follow for those who might want to implement them?

Tick ONE box only

- ☒ Yes
☒ Partially
☐ No
☐ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered no or partially, how could we make the measures better?

See below, next section. Rise of 'dry valleys' as in Peacehaven that become floods in rainy periods?

If you have a comment on a particular measure or measures, please let us know using the box below, making sure to include the measure number (e.g. C1.1)

C1.1. Revisit SMP for Peacehaven to extend maintenance policy by 750 years?
A1.1. SUDs policy needs a lot more work e.g. 'permeable paving' is usually under 20% permeable; SUDs can concentrate acid rain into small spaces threatening alkaline chalk.
SWB1.1. Specific mention of dew ponds that provide 'stepping stones' for species migration.
SWB1.2. See SWB1.1.
PS1.4. Please add Peacehaven Valley Road area (surrounded on 3 sides by SDNP) to the "where" column.
PS1.5. Valley Road is a 'sink' protecting C7.
PS1.6. Several areas around Peacehaven.

The next questions relate to Part 3

Do you agree with the list of prioritised species for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove that appears in Part 3, Section 5?

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Yes
☐ Partially
☐ No
☒ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered No or partially, what could we do to make the list of priorities species better?

Peacehaven has high designated species/km sq.

Looking at the priority species measures, do you happy that these are right?

Tick ONE box only

- ☒ Yes
☐ Partially
☐ No
☒ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered No or partially, what could we do to make the list of priorities species better?

Local Habitat Map

The next questions relate to the interactive Local Habitat Map. This is made up of the following layers

- The APIB: Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity - A map which shows where our designated sites for nature are located.
- Measures maps - these identify locations where our measures could be carried out to deliver the greatest benefit to biodiversity and/or the wider environment.
- The ACIB: Areas that could be important for biodiversity - any measures mapped outside of the APIB

Please note, while all the measures in the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove LNRS are valuable and beneficial for nature, not all of them are mappable. More than 50% of our measures are not mappable, in the main because a) we have insufficient data to map them accurately, b) we lack a clear rationale for mapping them or c) they could be implemented in a vast number of locations e.g. installing nesting boxes or wildflower strips. For detailed information about what we can and can't map, please refer to Part 4.

Please take a look at our interactive Local Habitat Map: <https://rb.gy/k3dcu0>. If you have a comment on a specific location you can add this directly to the map. We are particularly interested to hear from you if you own, manage or advise on land in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove.

Do you find the Interactive Local Habitat Map easy to use and navigate?

Tick ONE box only

- ☒ Yes
☐ Partially
☐ No
☐ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered No or partially, what could we do to make the Local Habitat Map better?

If there are measures mapped to land that you own, manage or advise on, do you think this could help support the planning, designing or the seeking of funding for actions for nature's recovery?

(Choose any one option)

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't know/Not sure

If you own, manage or advise on land and we've missed anything, or you have any concerns about measures that overlap with your land, please email us at: EastSussexLNRS@eastsussex.gov.uk

If you have any general comments on the Local Habitat Map, please add them below.

Developers' actions are already destroying 'protected' or 'potentially protected' areas - while the map omits others that should be considered for protection.

Your Involvement

Does the LNRS provide you with a better understanding of what we have to do to help nature in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove?

Tick ONE box only

- ☒ Yes
☐ Partially
☐ No
☐ Don't know / Not sure

If you answered **No** or **Partially** above, what else would you want to know?

What one word below best describes how you feel about the LNRS for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove?

- ☒ Excited
☒ Interested
☐ Neutral
☐ Not interested
☐ Sceptical

Thinking about your answer to the question above, could you tell us a little more about why you feel that way?

First, with revision to include Peasehaven with its variety of habitats and high number of designated species it raises hopes of protection here. Second, it may mean the effort past generations put into protection bio-diversity-e.g. LDC high court action 25-30 years ago may not be wasted.

If you are involved in nature recovery, do you think the strategy could help support funding, collaboration or the delivery of recovery projects?

(Choose any one option)

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☒ Not sure/don't know

Which of the following actions are you likely to take in making the LNRS happen? (Tick any that apply)

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Making my garden more wildlife friendly
- ☐ Supporting or volunteering with a nature-related community group
- ☐ Starting a community or nature related group if none exists
- ☐ Using the LNRS in my work
- ☐ Incorporating nature better on the land I own, manage or farm
- ☐ None of the above
- ☒ Other (please specify)

Increase policy prioritisation of nature and biodiversity protection and enhancement.

If there is anything else you'd like to tell us, including anything you think we have missed or needs to be included in this LNRS, please let us know.

Your maps omit areas of rich biodiversity. Also, action and money are needed FAST since developers are already destroying protected areas and trees with TPOs without enforcement.

Peasehaven contains two areas of rich habitat and species biodiversity, as well as smaller patches that need attention if their nature is to be recovered. One is the Valley Road area in the North (not to be confused with Newhaven's Valley Road), where the landowners divide between those who would love to be involved in nature recovery and those who want to develop the area for housing. The other, which is much better protected from damaging development, is to the East of the settlement boundary. The two 'elephants in the room' for the LNRS that you do not mention are (a) absence of enforcement policy not only to restore areas already designated, but to maintain them once restored; and (b) provision for funding. Given a reasonable amount of money, many landowners would prefer nature recovery to selling their land for housing - but the amount of money available is Enil. People on the ground also need organising and expert help.

If you'd like to get a copy of your responses to this questionnaire, and other information about the strategy, please provide your email address below.

zoepolydorou@peasehaventowncouncil.gov.uk

Demographic questions

This section asks for demographic information, such as age, gender and ethnicity, to help ensure we're hearing from a cross-section of people from East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. You do not have to answer any questions that you don't want to.

What's your age?

- ☐ 16-17
- ☐ 18-30
- ☐ 31-45
- ☐ 46-60
- ☐ 61-80
- ☐ 81 and over

How would you describe your gender?

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Female
☐ Male
☐ Non binary
☐ Prefer to self describe - please specify

What's your ethnicity

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ White, White British
☐ Asian or British Asian
☐ Black, Black British, Caribbean or African
☐ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups
☐ Prefer not to say
☐ Other (please specify)

Do you consider yourself to have a disability or health condition?

Tick ONE box only

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Prefer not to say

**Thank you so much for taking the time to add your voice to the
Local Nature Recovery Strategy for East Sussex and Brighton & Hove**

