

## **Danehill proposal (DRAFT) - Greenspace Management Plan, April 2024**

### Introduction

This is a draft proposal to outline how we - AirS – can support Danehill PC in better understanding a piece of woodland that they own called Jubilee Woods. Following initial discussions this has been framed as a community led Greenspace Management Plan. The purpose being to further investigate the ecology and biodiversity of the site but to make this a participatory and community led process, one which engages local residents in the plan and considers how the community could be more meaningfully involved in understanding its own natural community assets. This Plan could extend beyond this woodland and incorporate a parish wide assessment of other assets and how they could be better understood, enhanced and stewarded for long term community and nature benefit.

| Stage                                 | Purpose                            | Activity  | Time/costs                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Stage 1:<br>Understanding<br>the Land | Overview                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maps of area to get geographical context.</li><li>• Learning walk to understand area on the ground, access points, type of use etc.</li><li>• Initial learning conversation to get overview of how land is used, viewed etc.</li><li>• High level land survey (eg soil type etc)</li></ul>  | •   |
|                                       | Land use                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On site observation/survey of users</li><li>• Paper / digital survey/ conversations (at events etc)</li></ul>   | •   |
|                                       | Ecological<br>broadbrush<br>survey | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify areas that present in various ways (eg, woodland, shrub, meadow etc)</li><li>• Key species that are easily seen</li></ul>  | •   |
|                                       | Context<br>understanding           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Identify human points of access.</li><li>• Identify access points for other nature species.</li><li>• Map what borders land directly (eg housing, other built assets, green spaces, farmland, water ec)</li><li>• Overview of other significant landscape/built features that may impact land (eg rivers, larger towns, nature spaces and farmland)</li></ul> | •   |
| Michael's<br>involvement<br>(Stage 1) |                                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Site visits</li><li>• Conduct desktop survey of local wildlife / habitats.</li><li>• Turn this into a readable report for team highlighting</li></ul>   | Visit: 1 Day<br>Desktop: 0.5<br>Report: 1 Day |

|   |                                     | habitats and species of interest in the area.  |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Stage 2: Engaging the community and understanding their priorities. | Broad priorities or land focus only | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision as to whether this should be around priorities of the wider community issues, or just around the land.</li> <li>• Conduct a general priority statement or a land-based priority statement (see attached for process)</li> </ul>  | •                                   |
| Michael's involvement (Stage 2)                                     |                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This would a good stage to hold a community event with a talk about wildlife and to listen to community opinions and ideas.</li> <li>• I'm holding an event like this at Lodge Hill (Ditchling)</li> </ul>  | Prep and delivery of event 1.5 day. |
| Stage 3: community-led understanding of the Land as it is           | Learning opportunities              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talks by experts.</li> <li>• Create record of land before any intervention</li> <li>• Photography course/group</li> <li>• Artists</li> <li>• Soundscape recordings</li> <li>• Light pollution</li> </ul>  | •                                   |
|   | Audits of the land                  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professionally led but involving community</li> <li>• Identify national surveys to engage with</li> <li>• Citizen science</li> </ul>  | •                                   |
|   | Building relationships              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create connections between people interested in the land in a variety of ways.</li> <li>• Build understanding of stewardship</li> <li>• Develop ways for people to build relationships with the land through conservation and creative media.</li> <li>• Learn about the relationship the land has within and beyond itself.</li> </ul> | •                                   |
|   | Preparing for the future            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify a working group around leading the way forward.</li> <li>• Ensure a holistic makeup.</li> <li>• If appropriate – create sub-groups with specific interest (eg conservation, citizen</li> </ul>   | •                                   |

|  |                                     |  |   |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|---|
|  |                                     | science, recording, creative, engagement etc)  |   |
| Michael's Involvement  | (Engagement and Audits)             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wildlife events to engage and educate the public (bat walks, moth surveys)</li> <li>Wildlife App workshops: I'm currently designing and leading a Citizen Science project in Seaford (April 24) training local people to use online apps to identify, record and monitor local species. I'd be happy to learn from this experience and replicate it in Danehill.</li> </ul> | <p>Events: typically 5 hours each (prep, travel, delivery)</p> <p>Workshop: Prep and delivery 1.5 days.</p> |
| Stage 4: Create a community-led Land Management Plan                 | Establish Steering Group            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confirm members and governance.</li> <li>Identify assets within existing group.</li> <li>Identify gaps in skill set that could be filled by additional members or experts.</li> <li>Agree ToR and responsibilities</li> </ul>   | •   |
|  | Create plan outline                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Areas of focus – conservation, enrichment, community use, stewardship etc</li> <li>Identify additional support/info needed.</li> <li>Outline opportunities for community engagement and activity (direct and indirect)</li> </ul>   | •   |
|  | Create Full plan                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasis on involving community at all stages.</li> </ul>   | •   |
| Stage 5: building towards a carbon and ecological literate community | Share the plan                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a comms plan to share the plan and engage the community in the way forward.</li> <li>Build volunteer base to fulfil plan and keep developing</li> </ul>   | •   |
|  | Implement plan                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage volunteers and community assets in implementing the various aspects of the plan.</li> <li>Create training opportunities around land management</li> </ul>  | •   |
|  | Place the plan in the wider context | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify other pieces of land that could link to this site and explore ways to enhance natural corridors.</li> </ul>  | •   |

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understand the impact that biodiversity can have on climate and nature crisis.</li> <li>• Understand the carbon cycle and the need to draw down carbon where possible.</li> <li>• Connect with and/or develop wider community schemes to aid net zero and biodiversity net gain ambitions.</li> </ul> |  |
|--|--|--|--|