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Monday, 16 October 2023

To All Councillors:

As a Member or Substitute of the **Biodiversity Sub-Committee**, please treat this as your summons to attend a meeting on **Tuesday, 24 October 2023 at 6.00 pm** in the **Council Chamber, Town Hall, Matlock, DE4 3NN**

Yours sincerely,

Paul Wilson  
Chief Executive

This information is available free of charge in electronic, audio, Braille and large print versions, on request.

For assistance in understanding or reading this document or specific information about this Agenda or on the “Public Participation” initiative please call the Committee Team on 01629 761133 or email [committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk](mailto:committee@derbyshiredales.gov.uk)

## AGENDA

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Please advise the Democratic Services Team on 01629 761133 or email [committee@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:committee@derbyshire.gov.uk) of any apologies for absence.

### 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 5 - 14)

13 September 2023

### 3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To enable members of the public to ask questions, express views or present petitions, **IF NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**, (by telephone, in writing or by email) **BY NO LATER THAN 12 NOON OF THE WORKING DAY PRECEDING THE MEETING**. As per Procedural

Rule 14.4 at any one meeting no person may submit more than 3 questions and no more than 1 such question may be asked on behalf of one organisation.

#### **4. INTERESTS**

Members are required to declare the existence and nature of any interests they may have in subsequent agenda items in accordance with the District Council's Code of Conduct. Those interests are matters that relate to money or that which can be valued in money, affecting the Member, their partner, extended family and close friends. Interests that become apparent at a later stage in the proceedings may be declared at the time.

#### **5. PROPOSAL FOR A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT BETWEEN DERBYSHIRE SWIFT CONSERVATION PROJECT AND DERBYSHIRE DALES DISTRICT COUNCIL (Pages 15 - 22)**

The report presents a proposal from the Derbyshire Swift Conservation Project for a collaborative project to address the loss of Swift nesting sites across the district.

#### **6. BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN UPDATE**

On the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 DEFRA confirmed that the Government was delaying the introduction of the mandate to deliver 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) on all sites, contained in the 2021 Environment Act.

BNG was meant to become part of the planning system in England in November 2023. However, DEFRA has said that under its 'updated timetable' developers will be required to deliver net gain on all sites from January 2024.

DEFRA also announced that by the end of November they would publish all guidance and the regulations including:

- The statutory biodiversity metric, critical for calculating the correct BNG
- The draft BNG template, which will help developers plan for what they need to do during planning application stages
- The Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan template, which will set out how the improved significant on-site and off-site habitats will be managed for the long term
- A package of BNG guidance that sets out further advice for landowners, developers and LPAs around their roles and responsibilities in delivering BNG

A further update to Members on the Councils activities in preparation for the delayed launch of BNG will be provided as part of a wider Biodiversity update report in November as agreed at the Sub-Committee meeting on 13 September 2023.

Members of the Committee - Councillors Matt Buckler (Chair), Martin Burfoot (Vice-Chair), John Bointon, Stuart Lees, Roger Shelley and Peter Slack

#### **NOTE**

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