

Appendix 2 : Projects: 3 Year Plan April 2024- April 2027 – current status

The initial projects in this 3-year plan can be found in the table below. The following project plan is not exhaustive as additional opportunities may arise and plans may be altered. The projects may be subject to slight modification when they are each investigated, costed and discussed. SPC will promote projects via its monthly parish council meetings. When identified additional projects will be added here.

PROJECT	DETAILS	TIMELINE	MONITORING	STATUS
AIM: Reduce our local carbon footprint and reduce waste				
Reduce food waste	Investigate the creation of a market garden at the parish council allotments.	Autumn 2026	Monitor involvement in market garden once established e.g number of volunteers, number of food items shared.	
Allotments	Investigate the provision of more allotments for Siston Parish	Autumn 2028		
Environment policy	Work with and encourage the parish council to create an environment policy	Autumn 2024	Support the creation of the policy and monitor when it is approved	
Climate & Nature Emergency Declaration	Encourage the parish council to declare a climate & nature emergency to include aims of	Winter 2024	Monitor aims from declaration to ensure met	

	reaching net zero by 2035.			
AIM: To create more habitats and corridors for wildlife				
Hedgehog Heroes	Get Parish Council on Board with the Hedgehog Heroes project from SGC. Work with developers in the parish to install hedgehog highways in new fencing. SGC officers have ideas for around Siston Park area.	Begin Autumn 2024. Ongoing: e.g. Kings Oak and Kings Forest Primaries already have Hedgehog Hero Boards	Monitor recordings on the Big Hedgehog Map. Monitor number of hedgehog highways installed.	
	Ask Parish Council to write to SGC and ask that Hedgehog highways should be part of the design standard for any new development and referenced in their emerging Local Plan	Autumn 2024		
Free Trees	Run a free trees day and supply free trees for residents to plant. Approx £500 required.	Winter 2025/2026	Count how many trees collected, record species and number and location where planned to plant.	
Wildflowers	Identify areas across the parish for wildflower	Summer 2024	Record potential sites.	

	planting and add to Google My Maps as “areas for opportunity” Encourage SGC to run Wildflower webinar to share with public pros, cons and requirement for successful wild flower planting			
Planting wildflowers	Plant flowers in previously identified spots. Seek appropriate permissions. Grow wilder can supply. Include the community centre if willing and verges.	Spring 2025	Consider setting up volunteers to monitor wildflower areas annually to record species. FOSC have agreed to monitor common land	
Forest of Avon Trust Trees	Investigate restarting the Forest of Avon Trust plan to plant trees along Overs Court Wood check website/contact	Winter 2026/2027	Record number of trees planted. Investigate if tree care scheme required	
AIM: Facilitate stronger collaborative working with stakeholders				
Work with landowners	Work with local landowners and farmers to encourage native tree planting and rewilding on	Ongoing Promote through 2024	Monitor number of landowners willing to plant trees. Monitor and record number of trees planted.	

	<p>parts of their land.</p> <p>Check age of trees and hedgerows (old maps + SGC records e.g. TPOs)</p>			
Collaborate on projects with community groups	Work with Friends of Siston Commons and other local groups to complete projects in this plan,	Ongoing	Annually review collaborations with local groups and consider where partnerships could be made on future projects.	
Build relationships and increase participation in projects	Communicate with schools, churches, charities, Youth Clubs, and organisations to open opportunities for involvement in climate and nature projects.	Ongoing	Record which organisations contacted for which project and monitor partnerships created. This can be achieved by the annual return from organisations that receive grants from Siston Parish Council.	
Encourage businesses to be greener	To share information with local businesses on simple ways to be greener. Ask businesses what they have already changed	Spring 2024	After info shared, request feedback from businesses to see if any green switches have been made.	

	and what more can be done			
AIM: To increase our understanding of local species				
Ecology Surveys	Investigate undertaking ecology/biodiversity surveys across the parish at key sites. E.g. start with Siston Commons and work with South Glos Council. FOSC should do this and compare with FWAG Report. Also encourage residents to report local points of biodiversity.	Start Summer 2024	Review which sites to survey next annually. Investigate possibility of repeating surveys every 5 years.	
Mapping	Create and continue to update the Siston Google My Maps	2024-2027 Ongoing as and when	Map to be reviewed annually and updated as and when required	
BRERC	Encourage residents and volunteers to share species sightings with Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre (BRERC).	2024-2027 Ongoing as and when	Check BRERC for updates on species annually	
Bat Surveys	Encourage residents to take	2024-2027	Check National Bat Monitoring	

	<p>part in the Bat Conservation Trust surveys – National Bat Monitoring Programme.</p> <p>Work with South Glos Council to run a Bat Survey in Siston (e.g Summer 2025).</p> <p>Ask residents where they have seen bats previously.</p>		<p>Programme sites annually to check locals are participating in the programme</p>	
iNaturalist and Garden BioBlitz	<p>Encourage families to get involved by holding a garden BioBlitz.</p> <p>Encourage the use of iNaturalist for beginners but also BRERC if you want recordings to potentially impact planning decisions for those confident in using this system.</p>	Summer 2024	<p>Monitor Siston Parish are on the iNaturalist recording map. Note iNaturalist is not currently in sync with BRERC but does sync with iRecord and NBN atlas</p>	
AIM: To increase community engagement and communication				
Orchard Care Sessions	<p>Engage volunteers with tree care by organizing</p>	Winter 2025	<p>Monitor how many volunteers sign up.</p>	

	orchard care sessions.			
Complete and share 2023 Climate & Nature Action Plan with community	To actively engage the community with the action plan, welcoming feedback and offers to help role our projects with stakeholders and volunteers.	March 2024	Note feedback from community and consider modification to the plan. Aim to review plan annually.	
Friends of Siston Commons Engagement	Share information on climate and nature projects on the Friends of Siston Commons Facebook page and recruit support.	Begin Summer 2024, ongoing.	Monitor number of volunteers supporting projects from this group.	
Investigate comms methods	Experiment with varied communications methods to recruit support and spread messages regarding the environment including social media, notice boards, parish website, flyers, local magazines etc.	Begin Summer 2024, ongoing.	Monitor likes and comments on social media. Consider asking volunteers and participants at events where they heard about it.	
AIM: To work with the parish council to include environmental issues in the decision making process				

Environment policy	Work with and encourage the parish council to create an environment policy	Autumn 2025	Support the creation of the policy and monitor when it is approved	
Climate & Nature Emergency Declaration	Encourage the parish council to declare a climate & nature emergency to include aims of reaching net zero by 2035.	Winter 2024	Monitor aims from declaration to ensure met	
Allotment agreements	To work with the council to update the allotment agreements to include practices to protect nature. Use South Glos Council guidelines	Spring 2025	Review allotment agreements annually in August before agreements sent out.	
AIM: To protect and enhance green spaces across the parish				
Pond management	Work with volunteers and South Gloucestershire Council to generate a pond management plan for the existing pond and encourage new volunteers. The EA have acknowledged	Winter 2025	Monitor pond annually to check for build up of material to ensure management is working. Consider pond species monitoring.	

	<p>that the sluice requires repair and will advise Siston Parish Council when scheduled.</p> <p>Appropriate training to be provided by SGC.</p>			
Conservation Grazing	<p>Investigate progress with the conservation grazing scheme for Siston Common led by SGC. Work with South Glos Council to facilitate progress.</p>	<p>Begin 2025 , continue annual conservation grazing scheme.</p>	<p>Consider setting up volunteers to monitor the grassland minimum every 3 years. Investigate rapid grassland assessment technique for quick surveys. FOSC has received training in rapid grassland assessment techniques.</p>	
Biodiversity Net Gain	<p>To work with developers to encourage biodiversity net gain in situ within the parish. Work with parish council planning committee.</p> <p>Discuss with SGC BNG national and local guidance.</p>	<p>Begin Spring 2025 - on going.</p>	<p>Request net gain method from developers</p>	

	<p>Investigate current biodiversity.</p> <p>Siston Parish Council to request that the net biodiversity gain is actually on the same site; not offset elsewhere. Request the green corridors be protected and enhanced for the greatest protection of existing wildlife whether plant, animal, insect.etc</p>			
Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)	Work with SGC to seek adoption of report from 2015 survey	2024		

Contact and Get Involved

If you have any suggestions, comments or would like to get involved in any of the projects proposed in this plan, contact Sara Thomas the Siston Parish Clerk via email: sistonpc@gmail.com or telephone 07946858048

Acronyms and Definitions

SGC	South Gloucestershire Council
South Glos Council	
FOSC	Friends of Siston Commons, who in collaboration with SGC are helping to deliver the Commons Connections project.

