

MALVERN HILLS AONB JOINT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

8 APRIL 2022

A NATURE RECOVERY PLAN FOR THE MALVERN HILLS AONB

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to note and approve the plan.

Background

1. At its meeting on 6th November 2020 members of the Malvern Hills AONB JAC considered a paper concerning future work to produce a Nature Recovery Plan for the AONB. Then, a year later, at its meeting on 5th November 2021, members received a presentation from Robert Deane of Rural Focus Ltd and considered a draft Nature Recovery Plan. A range of issues in relation to the draft Plan were raised and discussed.

Summary

2. Following two earlier phases of stakeholder engagement, formal consultation on a draft Nature Recovery Plan took place between 10th January and 4th February 2022 with an additional two weeks given to those who needed it. 21 responses were received from a variety of members of the public, landowners, community groups, NGOs, local authorities and government agencies.
3. Many of the comments received were of a relatively minor nature. Comments made and the AONB Unit's responses to them can be viewed at:
<https://www.malvernhillsaonb.org.uk/>
4. The Plan was updated with revisions in light of the comments received and the final version of the Nature Recovery Plan is attached (also available on the AONB website as above). This document will now be used to help inform the work of the AONB Partnership, including in the delivery of the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme. It is expected that this plan will be integrated into the AONB Management Plan when the latter is reviewed in 2023.

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