**CRANBROOK TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM NO.**

**19th AUGUST 2024**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Councillors appointed to outside bodies - Cllr Ray Bloxham**

**Clyst Valley Regional Park Delivery Board.**

The board’s most recent meeting was held on 28th June 2024, hosted by the National Trust at their Killerton Estate Offices. The venue was specifically chosen to allow Board members an opportunity to observe the National Trust Three Rivers Landscape Recovery Project immediately after the formal board meeting.

The ‘Three Rivers’ Landscape Recovery Project aims to restore nature and the natural landscape at the Killerton estate with a focus on improving habitats for the future. It will provide more areas of priority natural habitat on the 2,500-hectare estate, ensuring that the land achieves High Nature Status and Priority Habitat.

The project is named ‘Three Rivers’ after the Clyst, Culm, and Cranny Brook Rivers which flow through the estate.

Killerton is one of only twenty-two places in the UK that have benefited from the DEFRA (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) Landscape Recovery Scheme. The estate has been awarded £541,000 to develop plans for nature recovery and build on the success of the award-winning [Green Recovery Challenge](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/devon/killerton/green-recovery-project-at-killerton) fund work completed at Killerton in 2022. The conservation work delivered by the team at Killerton won the Countryside Management Association’s Gordon Miller Award for improvements made to habitats and the landscape.

The Board meeting provided members with a progress update on the live consultation on the proposed expanded boundary of the Clyst Valley Regional Park within the emerging EDDC Local Plan and on the consultation on the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) which are running parallel but have obvious links. EDDC will be reviewing the results of the local plan consultation (including the CVRP boundary) and re-consult later in the Autumn. DCC are reviewing the consultation responses on the LCWIP and are expected to publicise the results in early 2025.

Technical work to bring forward the Station Road Country Park (SANG) is complete and a decision has been taken by EDDC for the management of the area to be by EDDC’s own Countryside Team. Detailed design work remains ongoing with a projected start on site early 2025 and opening late Spring 2025.

Funding opportunities are being sort to progress the Crystal Clear Clyst project with potential links to the Three Rivers project outlined above. Liaison with Exeter Airport is taking place to ensure that the project does not result in an increased risk of bird strike. The project is awaiting a sewer report from SWW which is outstanding.

The Town Council hosted a Board workshop at the Younghayes Centre in Cranbrook on 30th May to develop a National Heritage Lottery Fund bid focussing on engagement with nature in the Tithebarn / Mosshayne / Cranbrook area and connections to the wider Clyst Valley. Following this workshop, Officers have held positive talks with NHLF and an expression of interest is being developed for a bid.