

13. Making Space for Nature Project – Liskeard – Report of the Facilities Manager

On Friday 8th November 2019 Helen Fearnley from the Making Space for Nature project gave a presentation on the proposed project for Liskeard to representatives from Cornwall Council, Liskeard Town Council and Liskeard in Bloom.

The Making Space for Nature project is a £2.9 million project, funded by ERDF, Cornwall Council and University of Exeter. Cornwall Council is running the project with CORMAC as the delivery partner.

The project is funded to make biodiversity and access improvements to Cornwall Council owned assets within 7 Cornish towns. Liskeard is one of these towns. There is an approximate spend of £200k per town. It should be noted that the projects can only be considered on Cornwall Council owned and managed sites, however this will not effect any future devolution opportunities.

Making Space for Nature is primarily a biodiversity project where green spaces are improved for wildlife with different types of pollinator planting be that trees, wildflower meadow patches, shrub or perennial beds.

The project is unable to fund items such as play or exercise equipment, however the final design may include improved access and inclusive sitting areas for example.

This project started in August 2019, and Helen and the team hope to have completed design plans for sites and have consulted with residents on these designs by the end of April 2020.

Works on site will take place between February 2020 and June 2021, with project completion July 2022.

Helen has visited and evaluated numerous potential sites in Liskeard, and with feedback from the November 8th meeting, has looked at additional suggested sites.

The current list of possible project sites are:

Liskeard	Castle Park	PL14 3AX
Liskeard	St Martins Churchyard	PL14 3AQ
Liskeard	Lake Lane Estate (Cornwall Housing)	
Liskeard	Lanchard woods Liskeard (POS at Lanchard Meadow)	PL14 3PA
Liskeard	Rapsons Field Play area	PL14 4DH
Liskeard	Road verges and roundabouts	

The project now needs to identify a prioritised list of sites and would welcome feedback from Liskeard Town Council on any specific identified issues, together with a desired order of priority. Some sites may not be included in the final project, which is dependant on the scope and budget of the prioritised list and designs.

The information received from the Town Council will then be added to the scoring matrix to assist and determine which sites are most suitable for the project investment and its environmental return.

Going forward, the Town Council may be asked to play a part in assisting and facilitating the public consultation phase.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a) That the Town Council **CONSIDERS** and **SUPPORTS** the Making Space for Nature project.
- b) That the Town Council **CONSIDERS** and **PRIORITISES** its preferred list of potential sites for inclusion into the project, and offers any supporting feedback to the Making Spaces team.