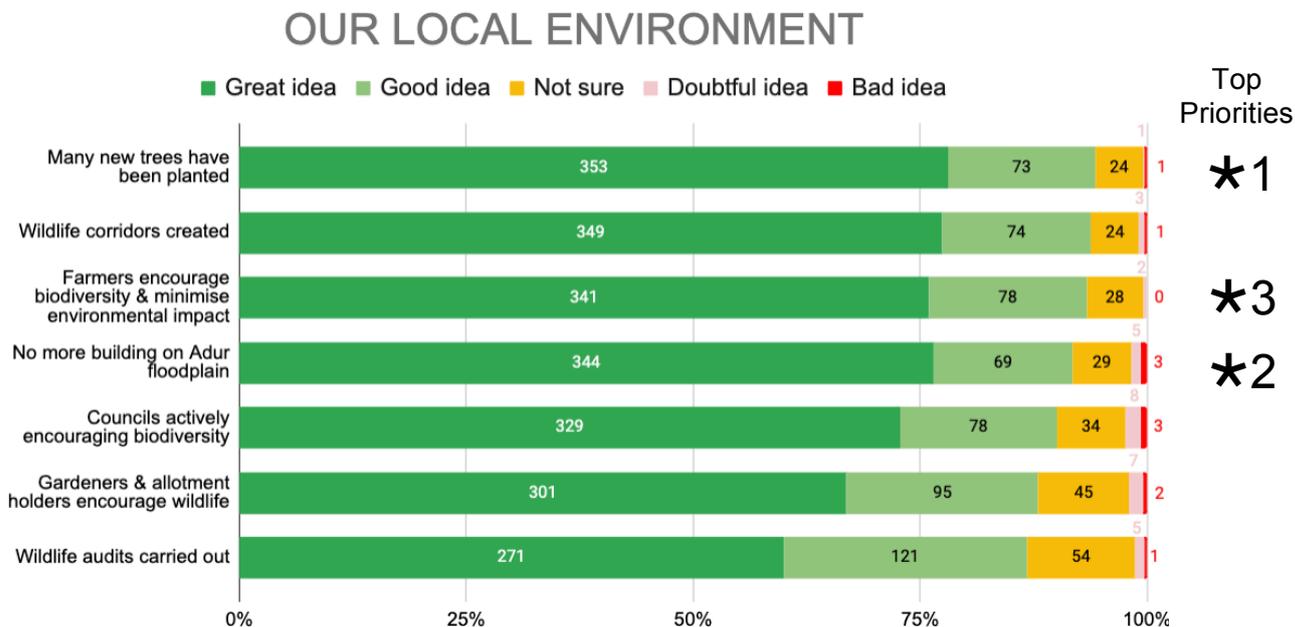
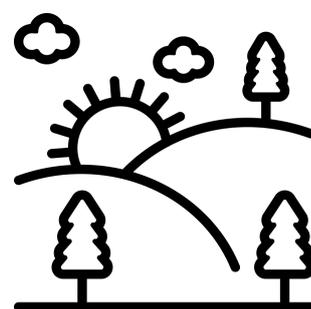


# E. Our local environment

## Headlines



- Protecting the local environment clearly has widespread support. All the ideas got an approval rating of over 86%, with virtually no one thinking they were bad ideas.
- Tree planting came top of the list by a small margin – 94% think this is a good, or great idea, with the caveat that we manage the process carefully and plant 'the right tree in the right place'.
- People are keen to see the landscape managed better, with wildlife corridors created and farmers actively encouraging biodiversity and working to minimise their environmental impact.
- They also see an important role for local councils in encouraging biodiversity on land they own, and also for garden and allotment holders.
- Building on the Adur floodplain is seen as an obvious 'no no'; 92% are against this.



## 2030 Vision Survey – Detailed Results

### Raw data

Idea	Great idea	Good idea	Not sure	Doubtful idea	Bad idea	Good or great idea	Doubtful or bad idea	Average Score	Number who consider priority
Many new trees have been planted in the area	78%	16%	5%	0%	0%	94.5%	0.2%	4.72	270
Steps have been taken to create 'wildlife corridors' throughout the area	78%	16%	5%	1%	0%	94.0%	0.9%	4.70	183
Local farmers are working to encourage biodiversity on their farms and minimise their environmental impact	76%	17%	6%	0%	0%	93.3%	0.4%	4.69	241
No more building has been allowed on the Adur floodplain, which is managed to provide natural flood protection	77%	15%	6%	1%	1%	92.0%	1.8%	4.66	260
Local councils are actively encouraging biodiversity on land they own	73%	17%	8%	2%	1%	90.0%	2.4%	4.60	200
Many more people are managing their garden and allotments to encourage wildlife	67%	21%	10%	2%	0%	88.0%	2.0%	4.53	149
Wildlife audits are carried out regularly so we can monitor changes in biodiversity	60%	27%	12%	1%	0%	86.9%	1.1%	4.46	45

### What else would you like to see?

A bigger fine for people letting their dog poo in grass and the wild life because it is not very nice to see that there is so much dog poo around upper beeding and steyning.

A comprehensive tree planting project to replace the many ash trees that will have been lost

A greater awareness of the decimation of the hedgehog population and what small things we can each do to encourage these sweet foragers !

You could work with the wildlife trust to get information & ideas.

Bees MUST be protected and encouraged or we're all done for.

Pesticides & pollutants being using locally, making their way into our waterboard, along with the huge amounts of pharma chemicals urinated into the same precious resource Never gets a mention.

We are All in drugs and consuming chemicals due to this fact alone.

We should have a say.

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A recognition that, where nature is concerned, tidiness is vandalism. Areas like Bramber Brooks Nature Reserve where a path winds through undisturbed wildness are wonderful.
A skatepark
All of the above. Not much point doing some but not all of the above.
All of this is great, but horse riding and keeping is a great idea for encouraging land to be used for countryside pursuits rather than city ones. I don't see it being encouraged around here.
All really important. Can team up with Sussex Wildlife Trust and Downland Scheme and South Downs National Park etc, to help educate local community and create love for all habitats and species. e.g. local wildlife walks, bat and moth watching, now to plant more pollinators, building bird and bug boxes, creating wildlife pond, hedgehog walkways between gardens, etc. talks and practical lessons. A lot can be done locally to encourage wildlife of all types. Great we have Tony Whitbread's input!
ALL the other suggestions
An end to pesticide use on local farmland. Organic farming practices Implemented by local farms , less meat production (sheep and pigs and cows are all reared locally to Steyning these need to be replaced by organic arable farming).
Asking me to pick three from the above is impossible. I've chosen but they are *all* vital, all of them.
Avoid short term cost saving of not removing greenery from road side where the end result will be concrete and roads breaking up
Beavers they have more sense
Better education at a young age related to growing food, ecology and awareness of our natural surroundings.
Co-operation is needed with all the disparate groups involved.
Council led home growing initiatives
Disabled access needed in more places. Also safe areas to exercise dogs (enclosed fields) away from children who may not know how to behave
Educating people about the importance of the natural world and our dependence on it.
education of landowners to manage in a more environmentally friendly way Increase in hedges, massive increase in soil improvements - carbon sequestration in soils is extremely important less paved gardens for improved water management
Electric vehicles used for all public transport and all emergency services and delivery vehicles. The bee is becoming endangered due to climate change, and without bees to pollinate, there will be no food globally, making all of the above obsolete.
Ensure digesters supply gas not electricity as twice as efficient. Site digesters away fro residential property unlike wappingthorn!
Exploitation and poisoning of our environment, for whatever reason, made illegal and heavy fines issued.
Far less mowing of verges and "odd bits" of green space - they could be left to grow long during the spring and summer months to encourage wildflowers and insect biodiversity, then mown in September when seeds have set.
Food waste collection
Further development of community wildlife areas in conjunction with community groups and local councils. Developers to contribute to community environmental protection schemes.

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Grass cutting of graveyards and recreation grounds is kept to the minimal to encourage wild flowers and biodiversity
Growing our own trees to plant from local seeds encourage people to do so and create a new woodland area from these seedlings - community woodland.
Hedgehog gaps in fences, “bee bricks” installed in new housing.
Hedgerows and verges kept under control, also trees overhanging roads.
Horsham Planning department involved in green discussions.
I would like to see the horseshoe path cleared and eventually new native trees planted there, as grass would not flourish there
I'm grassy areas / grass verges plant bee-friendly flowers
Increased awareness among local people of the issues surrounding local biodiversity (as opposed to the global issues). These are the things where local people can make a real difference
Investment in projects to teach local children and teenagers about biodiversity and respecting the environment, as well as teaching them to garden and encourage biodiversity in their own lives (possibly in collaboration with schools). Similar projects for adults, maybe gardening classes at new allotments.
Land owners supporting (or paid to support) upgrading footpaths to bridleways
less lawn care and more allowing it wild
LESS PLASTICK
Lobbying of local businesses to see how they can be more environmentally friendly.
Local Councils (Parish and District primarily- but also pressure on WSCC to do likewise) to adopt a green agenda, not just encouraging biodiversity, but also introducing policies on reducing use of pesticides, herbicides and plastics, encouraging water harvesting, reducing grass cutting in areas where wildflowers could flourish, and encouraging organic growing principles on land they let for growers eg allotments.
Local councils should really take a lot of notice about public opinion
Local farmers incentivised to be more biodiverse
Lots of support and encouragement to keep this at the forefront of people's minds
Lots of wildlife not getting extincted
Minimise verge mowing
More areas of the countryside being wilded, and trees etc left to grow naturally and wildlife encouraged.
More community effort such as regular working parties to clear our footpaths rather than relying on highways authority or Parish council funds. This is a great way to keep fit too.
More emphasis on the above concerns in schools.
More hose pipe bans to encourage water butts. Encourage Wilder gardens. Build on local conservation volunteer schemes.
More open and balance questioning.
more outdoor leisure opportunities
More projects like th Knepp rewilding project.
More responsible dog ownership to pick up poop on footpaths especially. More wildflowers everywhere brilliant.

## 2030 Vision Survey – Detailed Results

More rewilding projects like Knepp
More rewilding projects, like the Knepp Estate.
More trees within South Downs National park. Prior to farming this was a wooded area thriving in wildlife that has been stripped bare and devastated by loss of top soil. Lets start getting the trees back and re-wilding it.
Need a move to organic farming as the norm.
No housing development in the National Park that encloses Steyning to the south and west as it provides an important bio diverse landscape. This is as important or more important than not building on the Adur flood plain.
No more executive homes when 1 in 200 in the UK are homeless! Social housing and lightweight but eco friendly alternatives (eco park homes for example) must be prioritised. Serviced and for travellers to stay on is vital.
No poisoning of roadside verges and plants growing in pavements!
Organised community allotment.
paths only cut through village green areas
People being involved in nature counts ,becoming more aware of the beauty of nature
People encouraged to manage their gardens and not dump rubbish in them to be left for months on end.
People sharing/dividing plants rather than visiting Garden Centres and buying plants grown in peat and sold in black plastic flower pots.
Planning flood defences
Reduced road traffic
Restrictions on tarmac and block paved drives and a ban on plastic grass.
Rewilding and the encouragement of increased biodiversity must be top of the list. Landowners should be encouraged to put land aside (and still get grant payments) to form wildlife corridors.
Roadsides to be used as wildlife havens, with lower speed limits to help reduce roadkill. Education about the block paving of gardens, and fencing in of gardens
School children getting involved in wildlife projects as they are the ones that will need to protect the planet in the future.
Some sort of action taken by HDC or local council when complaints made out trees being taken down just to improve the value of a property by increasing a view
Stricter planning regulations for new roads & buildings & the green belt preserved to wildlife to flourish.
The Adur floodplain should be an extension of the Knepp Wildland project
The outright banning of use of harmful chemical pesticides, I was particularly shocked with the current Covid-19 pandemic, to learn that during the lockdown the local council was spraying roads and pavements outside residential properties with glyphosate-based weed killer
Trees
we need to look at planting to prevent flash floods from heavier rain, manage flood plain to absorb more water.
We need to target children and parents through education to encourage them to get out more and get involved in the countryside.
We shouldn't allow building on the national park to the south or west of Steyning as it provides an important bio diverse landscape. This is as important or more important than not building on the

## 2030 Vision Survey – Detailed Results

Adur flood plain.

The landscape also needs to be preserved to retain the beauty and appeal of Steyning

Work with farmers to stop the practice of spraying vast swathes of the countryside around Steyning where people are walking with toxic poison - not only is it a massive health risk for residents, we need to protect the bees and wildlife - come on people it's 2020, surely they can find a much more sustainable and less harmful solution!

### Any comments or concerns to share?

"No more building has been allowed on the Adur floodplain, which is managed to provide natural flood protection" seems to be an assumption that there are not ways to build homes in wetlands. Please split this into 2 categories - NIMBY and managed flood protection/sensitive and well designed building suitable for the environment expected. We should build more homes but they must not be the type of homes we have today.

Although planting verges with wild flowers is good, it should not be to the detriment of safety by leaving them uncut

Are 'trees' the next 'plastic bag'? At an average capture rate of 10kg CO2e per annum, vs 14,000kg CO2e per UK citizen, you need an awful lot of trees...

As said before, it is important we do not set up a "bubble" where we are in a good position on how our local area looks and feels to us, yet puts an unfair burden on others to provide the food, homes, jobs, power etc that we will need to survive. This can easily become "nimbism" and we have too much of this attitude already.

Biodiversity on verges and road junctions, roundabouts etc is a danger to driving and therefore human life.

Building must not be at the cost of exiting areas flooding, but we do need affordable housing so careful thought should be given. Any building needs to be off flood plain and MUST prioritise the needs of those in most need.

Building on the floodplain designed to withstand flooding should be fine.

Care to be taken not to burden farming so much it becomes unsustainable

Concerns re letting verges go wild- can be unsightly, be an issue to sightlines and makes it hard to clear rubbish and dog waste

Cut the grasses on the approach to junctions and roundabouts.

Don't know where this fits within the survey but the building on Adur floodplains option reminds me of the Mayfair proposals bordering Henfield. I think every effort should be done to fight this not simply because of the pressure on limited infrastructure that it will cause but also the massive environmental ramifications. Increased traffic is only problem one. The taking over and destroying of farm land, the new burden on natural resources nearby and the carbon footprint of building an entire new 'town' could be absolutely devastating.

Equality of access to all schemes for all groups of people

Failure to manage existing green areas such as road verges, roundabouts, recreation grounds to encourage biodiversity

Fantastic ideas.

First do no harm - this should be the mantra, above all considerations, if we continue to damage the ecosystem because it is more cost effective to use harmful chemical weed killers we are being very short-sighted. We only have to look to the USA and see the \$10.9bn law suit settlement that chemical giant Bayer has recently had to pay out to cover 125,000 lawsuits against its glyphosate-based weedkiller (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-53174513>)

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Good to work with HDC on tree planting scheme in Steyning and Bramber
How can farmers grow /produce more food for local consumption (previous section) and minimise fertiliser use etc. and plant more trees ? There's only a finite amount of land ...
I feel all these points are vital; choosing only 3 was a problem!
I fully support encouraging wildlife. However farmers sometimes have to use chemicals to ensure their crops are not eaten by insects, slugs etc and need to provide nutrients to encourage strong growth. Care must be taken as to what is used.
I worry that the burden of responsibilities will be pushed onto the land owners and farmers. We as a society need to take responsibility for our surroundings.
If planting more trees, they need to be appropriate for the area and a plan needs to be in place for their maintenance.
If a BioBlitz is to be regularly used to identify trends, it would have to be done with rigorous scientific principles rather than as a community, fun-day event (although this is a good way to introduce people to wildlife monitoring)
Important to work together with landowners and garden owners on a holistic plan as essentially all joins up.
Introducing more bee and butterfly friendly plants had an instant effect upon the numbers of insects and birds visiting my garden. As a direct result of how the orchard area is managed by the SCO group I now have 'untidy' areas for wildlife and a small log pile/bug hotel in my garden - education is key.
It's good for people's engagement and education to be looking after gardens and small scale areas with nature in mind but to create proper spaces for nature you need large areas, this involves engagement with local farmers and understanding issues from their perspective rather than simply auditing and telling them what they should be doing
It's hard to prioritise , when they're all so important!
its good that more trees are planted
Land development is becoming out of control
Less pressure to plant trees and more emphasis put on whole ecosystems. Planting a tree is great but creating a diverse ecosystem is great.
Lovely aspirations, and most are relatively cost free. However Brexit will throw a spanner in the farmers' work!
Nature is extraordinarily resilient, as the Knepp project shows. Mostly we just need to take our hands off the steering wheel and let nature flourish.
Need to be careful about tree planting being presented as the panacea - some places are not appropriate and Ash dieback is a salutary lesson not to put all our eggs in one basket.
No housing development in the National Park that encloses Steyning to the south and west as it provides an important bio diverse landscape. This is as important or more important than not building on the Adur flood plain.
No mention at all in this survey of protecting the South Downs National Park. Also with a crucial shortage of housing for local people if properly designed it can be built on the flood plain. One third or so of the Dutch live below sea level and raised living quarters are possible..
No new roads built and tunnels built under highways like the a283 for wildlife to move about
Parts of the Adur floodplain should be returned to marshland
People have to agree to use nature responsibly - eg letting council verges grow means dog owners let their dogs poo in the grass and don't pick up! Also, if the verges are too high, you can't

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see cars.
People will default to hosepipes as an easy option.
Please double check exactly how many homes are in the floodplain locally and how many are being built in areas of flood risk. I suspect this is very very low indeed as key organisations object and house insurance premiums for new build are unobtainable if in a flood zone. Some types of flooding (flash floods) are not related to flood plains and are just if not more important. This is therefore much more of a matter of perception rather than reality in my view and seems rather a leading question.
Points are too leading without justification or balance RE: building and biodiversity on council land.
Regarding verge management: junctions and where cyclists and pedestrians cross need to be cut and trees cut for safety reasons as an example currently this is a risk on the 283 approaching the bridge crossings towards Shoreham from Bramber and for the path crossing on the Steyning bypass
Saving local green spaces for the public to enjoy the countryside
Smaller houses good design
Some sort of action taken by HDC or local council when complaints made out trees being taken down just to improve the value of a property by increasing a view
Stopping building on the Adur flood plain is not just a wider environmental issue, major building like that proposed near Henfield will cause flooding in Bramber and Upper Beeding, damaging the long term viability of our villages.
That biodiversity is encouraged in the right places. For example the graveyard in St Andrews Church is a mess and it is embarrassing to go in there when you see the respect graveyards are paid in other countries. Also concerns about keeping pests down as there are a lot of rats locally which aren't dealt with as everyone tries to pass the buck when you report it.
The brown pesticide blitzed fields are a disgrace. This farmer needs to look seriously at organic alternatives.
The population is growing where will these people live, keep land for nature
the wide use of pesticides and slug pellets as it saves so much labour!!
The Wildlife Countryside Link website shows ambitious and necessary plans to give 200,000 hectares of UK land back to wildlife. In our local area, local groups, parish councils and concerned residents should ensure that the new partnership formed between Sussex Wildlife Trust and Horsham District Council produces proper results and is not just a box ticking exercise. It must continue despite any changes in local governance over time.
There should be a penalty system if people refuse to at least keep their property tidy.
they are all important, all these things are good to be put in place.
This absurd idea that lawns need to be constantly treated with chemicals to make them look like plastic grass. Very bad for wildlife and beneficial insects.
tree planting will not reduce carbon in the short term and biomass power stations just release the carbon stored in the wood they burn.
Wappingthorn digester is exhausting the goodness of the land, B2135 had soil leaching onto it after heavy rainfall.
We definitely need to be encouraging the recovery of bees and insects
Will there be an increased likelihood of flooding?