

Bathampton Meadows Alliance (BMA) Working Group:

OUR VISION & AIMS FOR THE MEADOWS & OUR CONTRIBUTION

Protecting and increasing the public benefit of Bathampton Meadows

1. Our Vision for the future of Bathampton Meadows

Much-valued open space held in trust by partners to:

- Protect and enhance the historic landscape, its natural features, habitats and wildlife, and keep them free from any inappropriate development that would compromise the integrity of the Meadows or the views from the three scheduled monuments - Browns Folly, the Skyline Walk and Little Solsbury Hill;
- Better connect communities with safe local walking and cycling routes that support healthy activities, breathe life into the river setting, reduce the use of cars, improve air quality, slow and manage the impact of climate change and support nature, improve biodiversity and complement the City as a World Heritage Site with the Meadows' 'fingers of green'.

2. Our Aims

Secure ownership, governance, planning status and investment for the Meadows which ensures its historical context, natural environment and local amenity is protected from inappropriate development. Facilitate this by: collaborating with and supporting B&NES Council to transfer its landholding in the Meadows to the National Trust; encouraging the Trust to make more acquisitions; and, by jointly seeking investment by the West of England Combined Authority to improve connectivity and access there.

Protect, support and enhance the Meadows present qualities and distinctive natural features, habitats and wildlife. Add to communities' enjoyment and appreciation of nature and the health & well-being of walkers, runners and cyclists. Take measures to prevent any activities or initiatives which may compromise this core aim.

Ensure this additional protection, connectivity and access: enables an increase in the number of people safely walking or cycling to work and school; supports healthy activities; reduces the use of cars; improves air quality; slows and manages the impact of climate change; supports nature and improves biodiversity; breathes life into the river; and, complements the City as a World Heritage Site with the Meadows 'fingers of green'.

Engage and gain the support of stakeholders, local Bath communities and other consultees (see Appendix below) in adopting and pursuing these aims for the future protection and public benefit provided by the Meadows.

3. Our Contribution, in cooperation with the Council and the National Trust

A. Encouraging and facilitating B&NES Council and the National Trust to reach agreement on the ownership and governance of Bathampton Meadows to protect, support and enhance its distinctive natural environment.

B. Committing to: preparing the draft Vision & Aims for the Meadows and the professional mapping of existing natural and physical features; envisaging and mapping better, sensitive access and connections with communities for walkers & cyclists - whilst protecting, supporting and enhancing its distinctive natural environment.

C. Committing to facilitating early public consultation with stakeholders and local Bath communities which gains their contributions and support for adopting and pursuing a clear Vision, Aims and Plan for the Protected Meadows. This would pave the way for any later stakeholder and public consultation on the specific measures the Council and National Trust undertake.

D, Setting-out how local communities would benefit by the achievement of this Vision & these Aims (in order to support the Council in using public policy to transfer its Meadows landholding to the National Trust) namely:

- ...secure its green setting to the World Heritage Site, as recognised by UNESCO
- ...continue to preserve its historical context and use as meadows
- ...protect, support and enhance its natural features, habitats and wildlife
- ...improve access & connectivity for walkers&cyclists; breathe life into its river setting
- ...improve the safety and health of children travelling to school
- ...contribute further to the physical and mental health & well-being of local people
- ...reduce the use of cars for journeys into the City and to schools
- ...assist in slowing and managing Climate Change, and improving air quality

Bathampton Meadows Alliance Working Group

APPENDIX**STAKEHOLDERS**

B&NES Council	National Trust
West of England Combined Authority	Other Landowners
B&NES Environmental Planners	B&NES Highways
Canal & River Trust	Network Rail
Avon Wildlife Trust	Cleveland Pools
Bath University Study Area for Bees	Bathampton Meadows Riverside Volunteers

CONSULTEES

Parish Councils of Batheaston, Bathford & Bathampton Villages	FOBRA
Residents of local communities	Friends of Sydney Gardens
Friends of Kensington Meadows	Bath Preservation Trust
World Heritage Site Management Committee	Sustrans
West of England Nature Partnership	Cycle Bath

Bathampton Meadows Alliance Working Group