

Calne Community Neighbourhood Plan

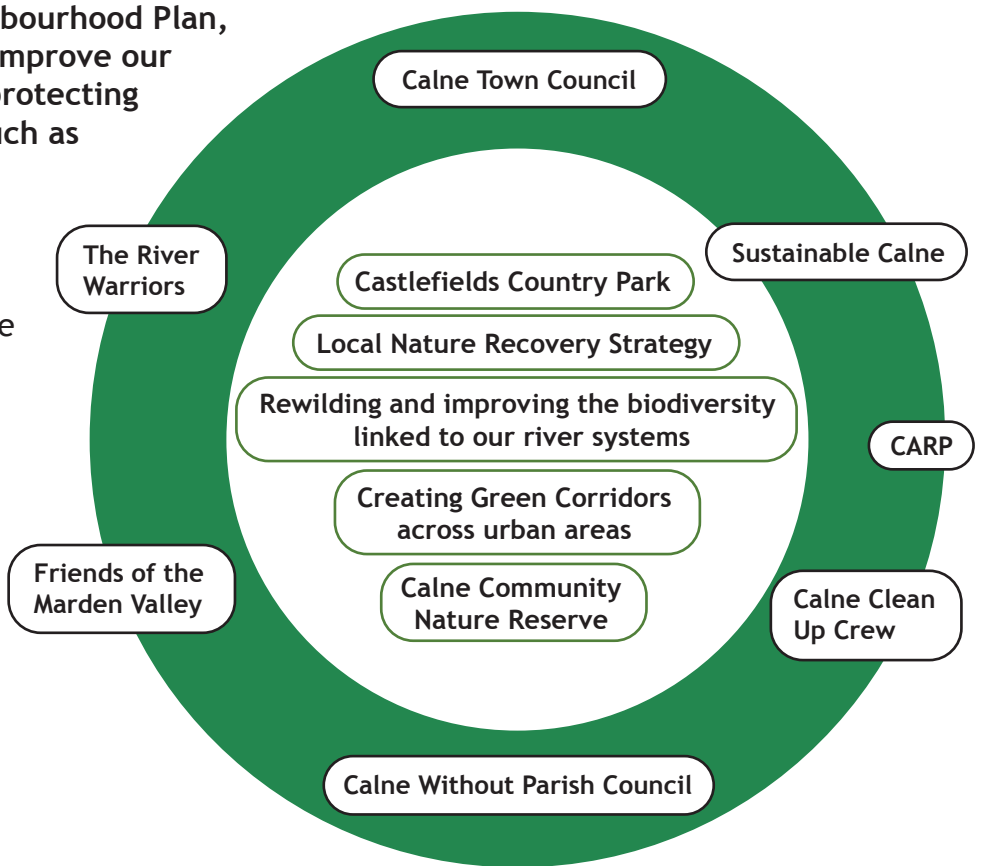


BLACKLAND | BROADS GREEN | CALNE | CALSTONE | DERRY HILL | HIGH PENN | LOWER COMPTON | MILE ELM | RATFORD | SANDY LANE | STOCKLEY | STUDLEY

Natural Environment Chapter Summary

Through the update to our Neighbourhood Plan, we have an opportunity to help improve our natural environment, including protecting and enhancing existing assets, such as local parks, nature reserves and other green spaces.

Making biodiversity central to the updated Plan will also help manage environmental risk and improve resilience to climate change.



Above: Opportunities and Projects Diagram

Key issues and priorities:

- Pro actively addressing the interlinked issues of wildlife, biodiversity, human health and wellbeing
- Protection of green spaces for recreation and accessible nature spaces such as North Wessex Downs National Landscape, Cherhill Down and Marden Valley
- New areas of housing to be integrated into, and designed so as to extend the local network of green spaces
- Ensure that the landscape character and setting is protected
- Maintaining a green buffer between settlements
- All residents have access to open countryside within walking distance
- Ensure flood risk is managed in a sustainable way

The following 5 policies will be included in the updated Natural Environment chapter:

NE1 Local Green Spaces - MAJOR UPDATE

The current Plan includes 14 sites which were designated as Local Green Spaces. Whilst these sites remain, a further 28 sites have been identified, assessed to include in the update of the Plan. These sites include small areas within housing developments, significant historic tree lines as well as the Castlefields Country Park and the Calne Pop Up Pocket Park.



NE2 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity - MAJOR UPDATE

The importance of preserving, protecting and enhancing our natural environment has become more recognised since the current Plan was prepared and a lot more information and data has become available, allowing us to strengthen the policy on Biodiversity.

NE3 Green and Blue Infrastructure Network - NEW

Natural spaces and watercourses do not exist in isolation - when they are connected they deliver quality of life and environmental benefits for communities and the nature that thrives within them. This policy sets out to protect and enhance our Green and Blue Infrastructure Network in line with Natural England standards.

NE4 Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows - NEW

Trees, woodlands and hedgerows are highly valued and celebrated locally, and therefore we have now included a specific policy to protect and enhance these green assets. This policy also connects with our climate change policies as we look to assist with becoming carbon neutral.

NE4 Setting of Calne and Calne Without - UPDATE

The setting of Calne and Calne Without remains very important to us as a community. The policy for this area has been reviewed but is largely as it was in the 'Made Plan'.

