

# Arun Valley Vision Steering Group - Workshop Notes

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 – 10.00 to 14.30

White Swan, 16 Chichester Road, Arundel, BN18 0AD

## Attendees

Dr John Godfrey (Chair)  
Gill Farquharson (Chair)  
Sara Denton (AVVG Project Officer) – Environment Agency  
Jeremy Burgess – South Downs National Park Authority  
Andy Townsend – Environment Agency  
John Archer – Arun and Rother Rivers Trust  
Mat Jackson - WSCC  
Adrian Waller – Amberley Landowners  
Claire Kerr – RSPB  
Steve Gilbert – RSPB  
Kate Rice – Southern Water  
Fran Southgate – Sussex Wildlife Trust  
Derek Waller – Arundel Town Council  
Dave Robinson – Environment Agency

## Apologies

Henri Brocklebank - Sussex Wildlife Trust  
Martin Brightwell – Horsham District Council  
Mark Maclaughlin – Horsham District Council  
Matthew Woodcock – Forestry Services  
Jim Seymour – Natural England  
Jack Marriott – Network Rail  
Tom Ormesher – NFU  
Gordon Wilson - Environment Agency  
Peter Knight – Duke of Norfolk Estate  
Roger Spencer – Arun District Council

## Welcome and Introduction to the Meeting

1. John Godfrey outlined 3 recently published Defra document:
  - Recent Michael Gove Speech – Farming for the Next Generation.
  - Defra 25 Year Plan
  - The future for food, farming and the environment consultation
2. John Godfrey brought to the group attention a Private Member Bill – Rivers Authority and Land Drainage Bill. The bill seeks to make provision about rivers authorities; to make provision about the expenses of internal drainage boards; and for connected purposes. The second reading of the bill is due to take place on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018. John Godfrey highlighted **John Godfrey to contact Nick Herbert MP to discuss private members bill further**.the need to support and influence these decisions before they are made.

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3. With regards the production of the Arun Valley Vision the chairs suggested that the document should be a live, cohesive document that people will buy into and accept. The aim is to produce a draft document by August 2018.

## Workshop Session

4. Each member of the group outlined their 6 priority issues and opportunities to the wider group. (see attached document).
5. The group decided that the already established themes for the working groups should be the focus of the vision moving forward:
  - a) Sustainable Catchment Management
  - b) Delivery Mechanisms
  - c) Community Engagement

<b>Sustainable Catchment Management</b>	<b>Supporting Information</b>
Climate Change	
Flood Management	
Water Quality	
Sea Level Rise	
Ecological Habitat	
Policies and Plans	
Land Management	
Natural/Social Capital	
Communities	
Rural Economy	
Legislative Framework	
Policies	
Adaptive Management	
Landuse Planning	
Evidence and Data	
Planning/Development	
Agri-environment	
Landscape	
Agricultural market and how to influence farmers.	
<b>Delivery Mechanisms</b>	
Funding	
Roles and responsibilities (statutory to riparian landowners)	
Future options (possible Rivers Authority)	
Influencing Plans and strategies	
Agri-environment	
Current EA proposals	

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New Innovative funding options	
Political Buy-in	
Future of AVVG	
Planning System	
<b>Community Engagement</b>	
Landowner Buy-in (Riparian, tenants and land managers)	
Education	
Public Empowerment	
Reconnecting with the River	
Sense of Place (Identity)	
Love your river	
ARC Project Schools Pack	
Political buy-in (District and Parish Councils)	
Building Trust	
Transparency	
Staff Time	
Managing Expectations	

<b>Key point and Actions</b>
John Godfrey highlighted the need for the final report to include legal responsibilities and organisational responsibilities.
Claire Kerr suggested mapping out the roles and responsibilities of all organisations (e.g. organogram)
Matt Jackson suggested having a glossary of terms in the final report
Gill Farquharson highlighted the importance of communication
John Godfrey highlighted the need to understand the remit and geographical remit of the cluster farm partnerships in the catchment. Sara Denton to circulate a map.
Claire Kerr highlighted the need to consider the legacy beyond the AVVG and how we should work more closely with the Arun And Western Streams Catchment Partnership. <b>A joint sustainable catchment management sub-group meeting is being held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April with representatives from AWS catchment partnership to explore how we work more closely together moving forward.</b>

**Next meeting – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 at the White Swan , Arundel at 2.30pm**