

## **THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**9 September 2019**

The Natural Environment Committee will consist of 7 Members of the Town Council:

The Committee has responsibility and delegated powers for:

- The Natural Environment; to identify and drive Green initiatives within the town, encouraging a climate friendly community with a cleaner, healthier future.
- To work with Plastic Free Ferndown.
- Identifying ways the Council and its holdings can become climate friendly through its own working practices.
- The Natural Environment Committee will promote the Health and Wellbeing of residents through engagement with our natural environment including initiatives which ensure our natural spaces are somewhere our community and visitors can enjoy and want to spend time.
- The Committee will work together with partners such as the Dorset Local Nature Partnership (DLNP), Dorset Council, Dorset Wildlife Trust, South West Lakes Trust and Natural England.
- The Committee will identify a programme of tree, hedgerow and wildflower planting, bulb and flower displays, working with local partners.
- Ecology and Habitats: The committee will seek ways to promote ecological interests within the town.
- Seek to address the decline in protected species within the town.
- To work with the Dorset Wildlife Trust and other agencies to better understand how we can protect and enhance our natural environment.
- The Committee will review the Councils membership of the Dorset Wildlife Trust on a yearly basis.
- The rationale of the Committee is to collect and consider evidence bases, consult and partner with appropriate agencies and individuals, working

towards recommending changes to the Committee that benefits Ferndown residents, it's natural environment and our climate.

- The Committee will review, and comment on Tree applications submitted to the Planning Authority.
- To determine the amount of budget required for its activities and to make recommendation to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for the necessary precept.