

Site Selection

To help us select the most suitable location for development, we carried out a series of rigorous assessments across many potential sites. This process helped us to filter out unsuitable options and identify those sites that are likely to have the least impact and the most benefit when developed.

Landscape and Visual

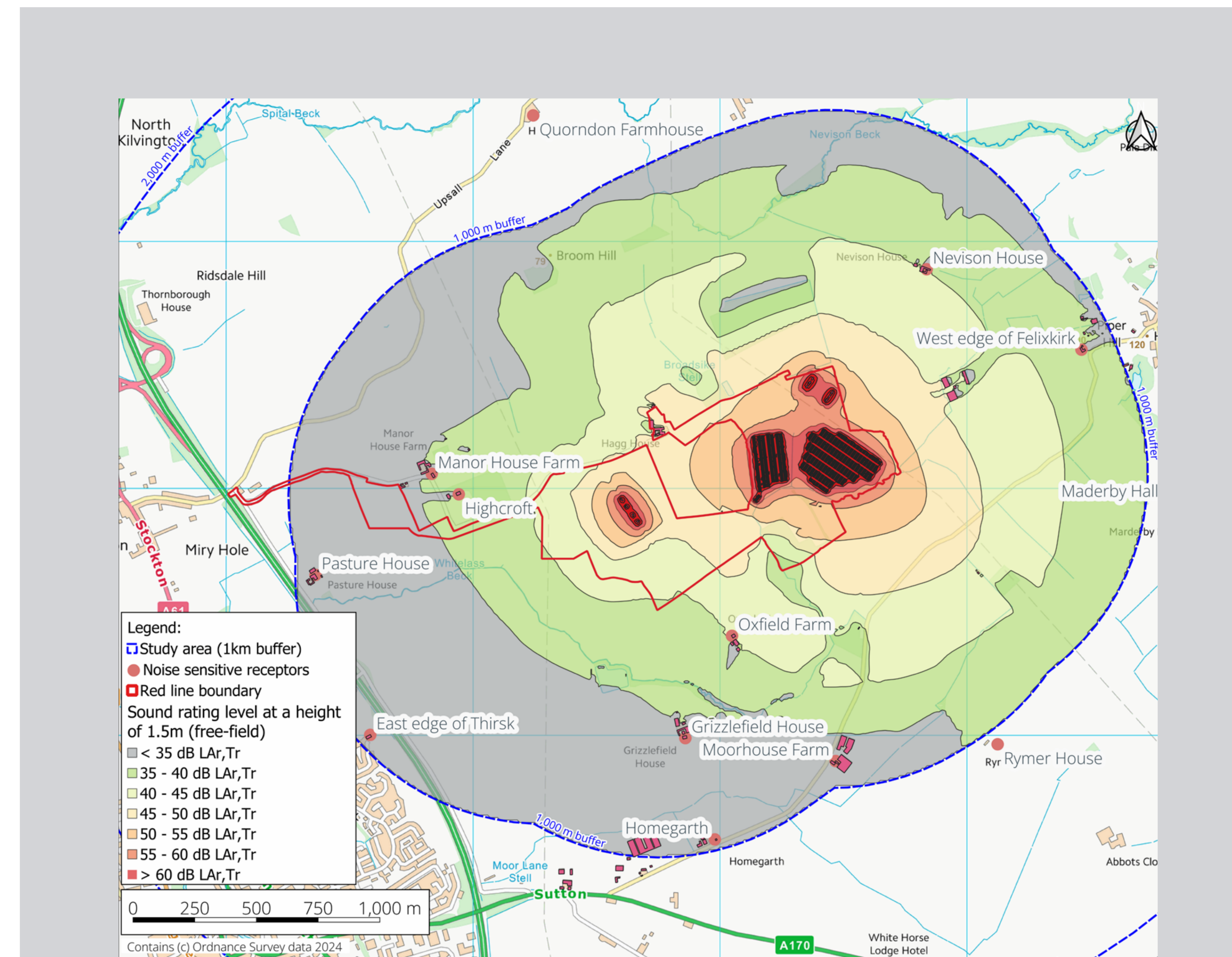
- Our site is located away from densely populated areas.
- The battery storage units would be located on land that has the least visual impact and that can be easily screened. We have selected the flattest areas of the site.
- The scale of the project has reduced over time as we have been cautious to select only the land where the natural topography, along with existing hedgerows and woodland, will help conceal the proposed development from long-distance views.
- We are preparing a full Landscape & Visual Impact Assessment alongside viewpoints and photomontages, all of which will be submitted as part of our planning application.

Transport

- We have specifically chosen an area with good access from the strategic road network.
- Access to the site from the strategic road network is available via the A19 which provides a main artery route direct from Teesport.
- From the A19, there would be a short journey through the village of South Kilvington onto Hag Lane in order to reach the site.
- An agreed Construction Traffic Management Plan would include rigorous controls on delivery times and hours of construction as part of our promise to the community (also likely to be secured by a planning condition).

Agricultural land classification

- Respect for the land is paramount to NatPower. We assessed the quality of land across a number of locations: this site was classified as 3b, meaning that it is not Best and Most Versatile, but moderate quality agricultural land.
- Opportunities for continued farming practice in undeveloped areas, is a potential option.



Noise

- The site has been selected in part because the development area is located c450 metres from the closest residential receptors.
- Our specialist acoustic consultant has undertaken background sound monitoring over a 7-day period up to a 1km radius around our site.
- The outcome of our noise modelling has shown that no significant adverse noise effects will be created by the proposed development.

Flood risk & Drainage

- The development site lies entirely within Flood Zone 1 (the lowest probability of flooding).
- We have carried out detailed assessments to understand the local hydrology, enabling us to reduce flood risk and protect water resources.
- A drainage strategy will be submitted as part of the planning application and will demonstrate how water and its catchment and treatment will be managed onsite.

Ecology

- We have assessed the site for more than 12 months to identify all wildlife that visit, live and use the land.
- Winter birds, nesting birds, bats, and watercourses have been extensively examined, and the outcomes of these surveys have informed the specific design and layout of the project.
- There are no international or national sensitive ecological designations such as RAMSAR, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Site of Biological Importance (SBI), Special Protection Area (SPA) or National Nature Reserve (NNR) within close proximity.

Heritage and Archaeology

- There are no designated heritage assets (World Heritage sites, Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments or Registered Battlefields) within the Bellmoor site itself.
- Archaeological geophysical survey has not identified anything that is noteworthy onsite and so pre submission trial trenching is not anticipated.

Grid Connection

- The site has been selected because it is located between two existing overhead transmission lines.
- We are proposing a transmission substation which will allow us to connect directly into the existing network.
- NatPower has already received a grid connection offer of 1GW.



Nature Recreational Area

As part of our commitment to biodiversity enhancement, community benefit and sustainable development, we are proposing to deliver a new nature recreational area, with parking, which will enable public access to the countryside on land that is currently inaccessible to the public.

Our exciting plans include:



Extensive tree planting:
Planting trees not only sequesters carbon but also creates shade, improves air quality, and fosters diverse habitats for countless organisms.

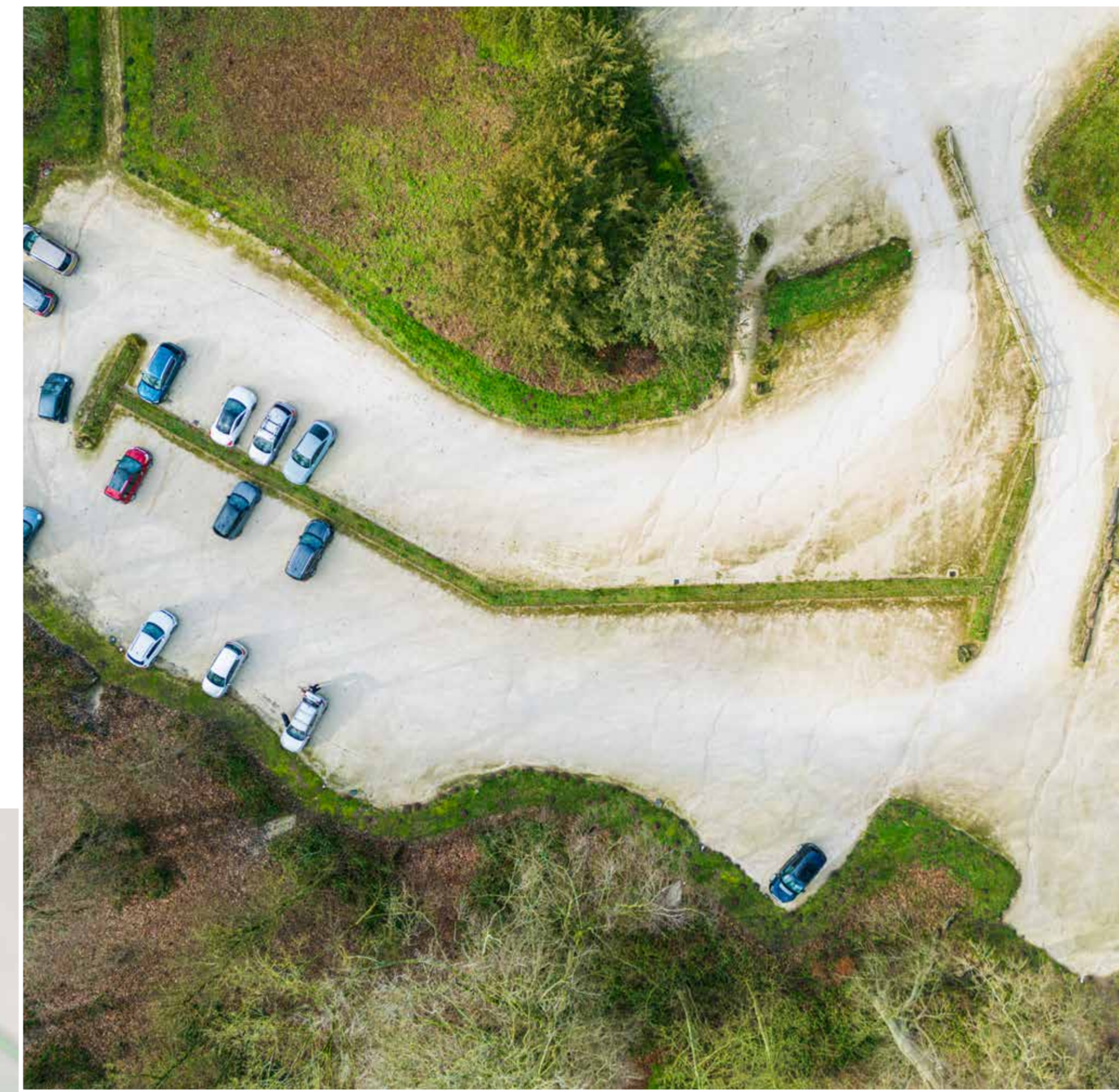
Installation of nesting boxes for barn owls and kestrels:



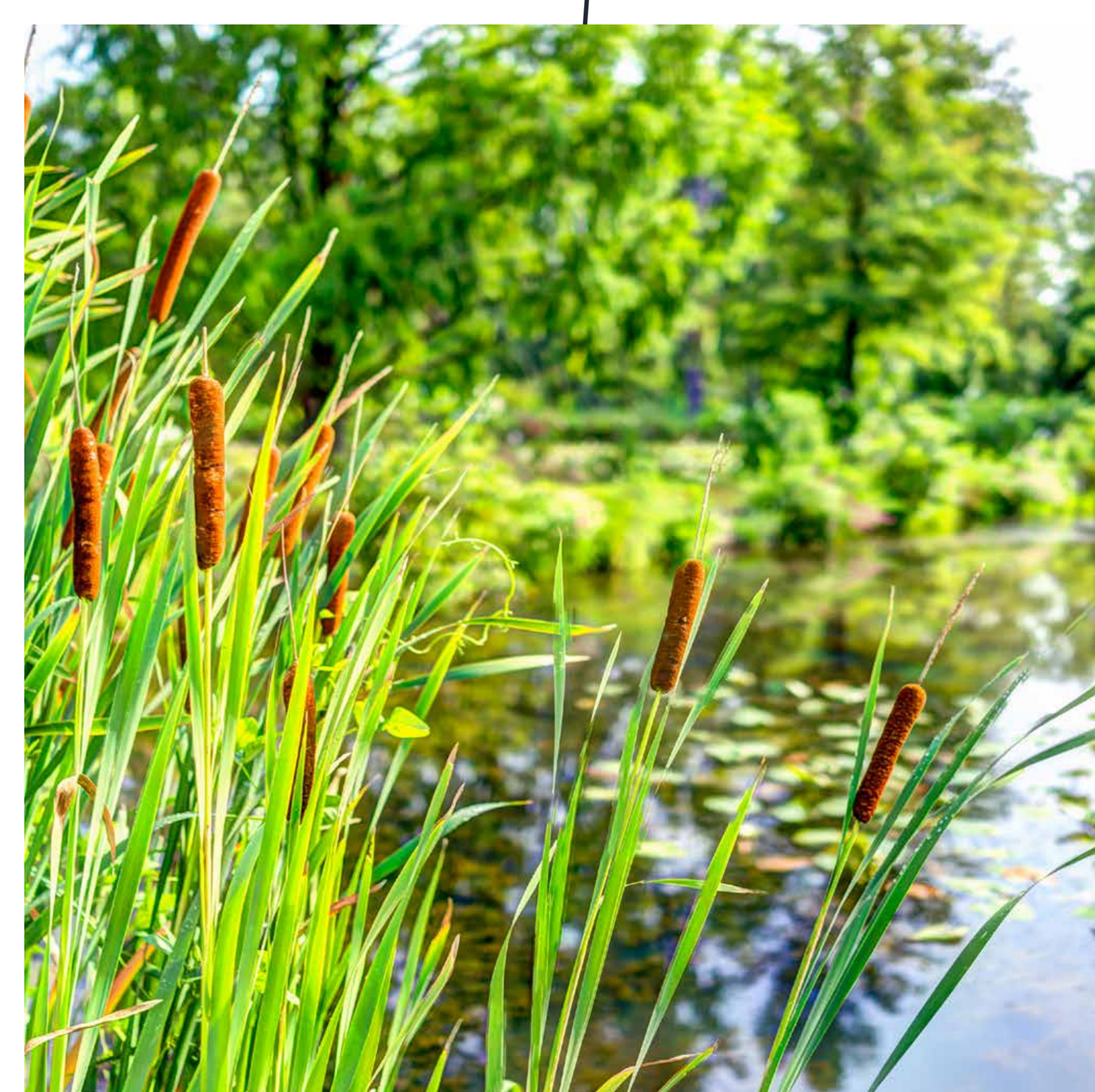
Proposed native boundary hedgerows:
These natural corridors provide essential habitats for wildlife, support pollinators and improve soil health while creating beautiful landscapes.



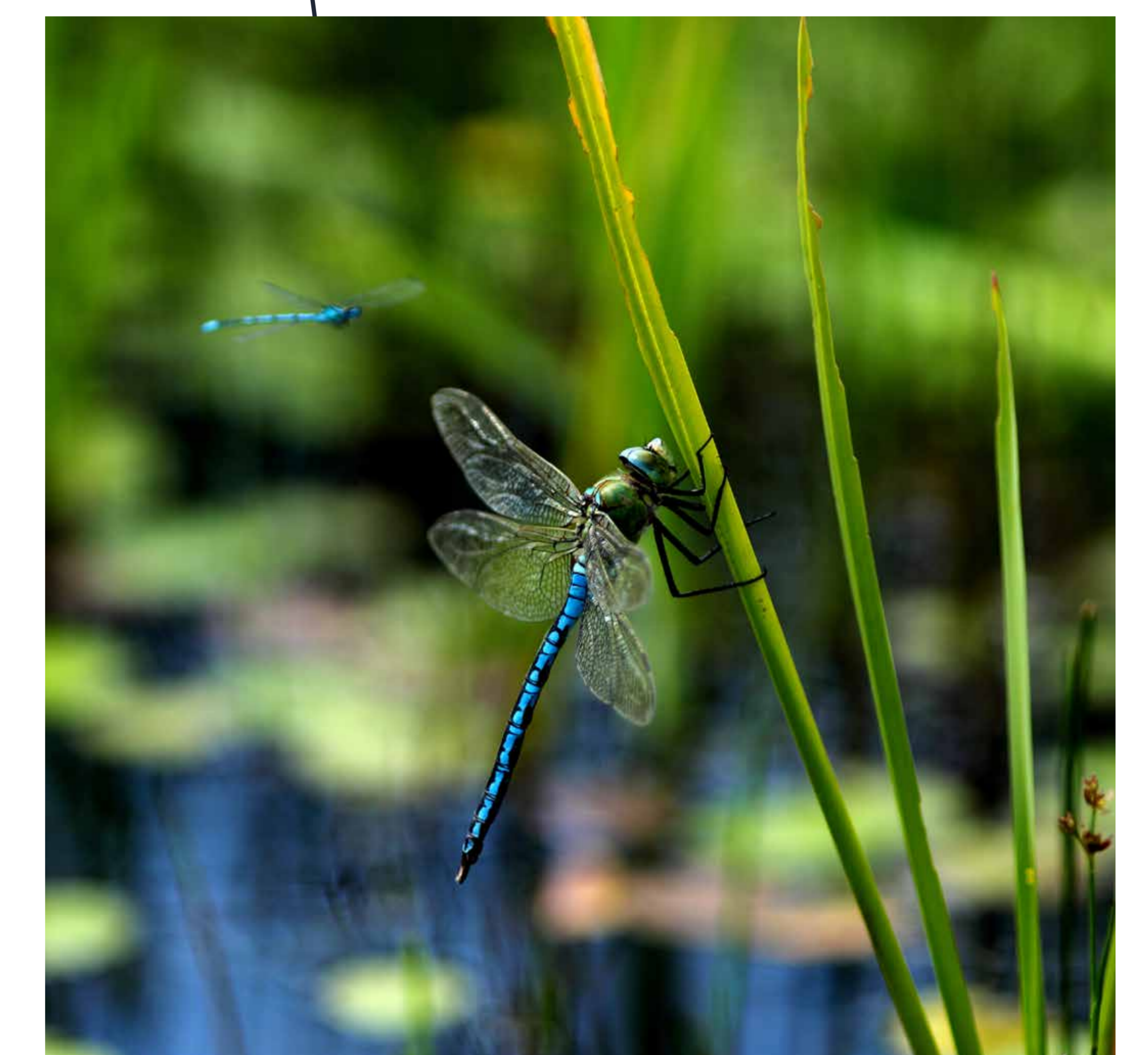
Visitors car park:
This will make the recreational area more accessible for the community and create a destination where people can walk the footpaths and experience nature close up. NatPower has carefully considered new routes and footpaths around the whole site.



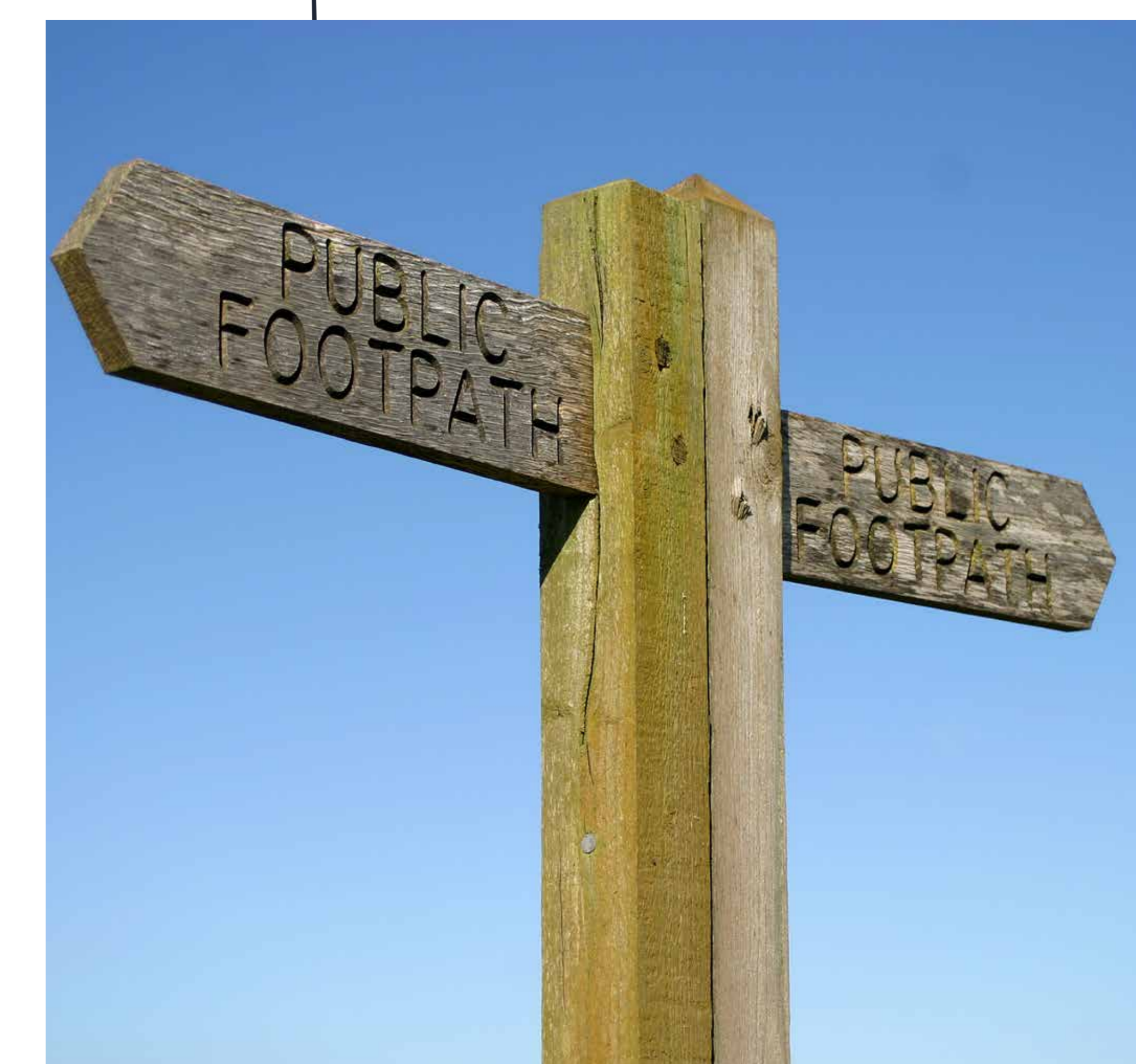
Proposed species-rich wildflower grassland:
These vibrant spaces support pollinators, enhance soil health, and provide colourful thriving ecosystems.



Ponds:
Vital ecosystems, attracting a variety of species and offering habitats for amphibians, insects and birds, enhancing overall biodiversity.



New footpaths:
Thoughtfully designed footpaths encourage exploration and connection with nature, promoting wellbeing and responsible engagement with our environment.



Outdoor education area:
This dedicated space for outdoor education fosters diverse learning styles and creativity while enhancing our connection to nature. Open to schools, colleges and the public, it invites everyone to explore and learn in an inspiring outdoor environment.

