



Neroche Community Review Action Plan and Prioritisation Plan - Update 1

- RED** Urgent/Critical – start immediately
- AMBER** Medium term – start in the next 12 months
- GREEN** Nice to do

Topic	Issue	Aim/ Objective	Action	Outcome	Key Milestones	Responsible person(s)/ organisation(s)	Resources needed	Expected Completion Date
Climate Change and Environment	People want to be more aware/know how to find information on reducing their carbon footprint	The community has easy access to relevant information	1. Review what is available and where	Reliable information source (s) identified	1. Review information	CAGE works with Parish Council, Neroche Newsletter & Neroche Villages Website	Access to reliable information via authenticated advisory bodies	Information obtained Dec 23
			2. Community Action Group on Environment to highlight how parishioners can take simple steps to reduce carbon footprint.	Information is readily available to residents in a central 'hub'	2. Establish Community Action Group on Environment (CAGE)			
			3. PC to debate whether named councillor/s will hold Environment Portfolio	Information is communicated to residents	2A. Establish central information 'hub' on Parish Council website			Article in Winter Newsletter
	Access to green energy	Review the potential for a community green power generation project	Undertake a feasibility study	Decision is reached re portfolio holder	2B. Circulate information about carbon footprint via community email/newsletter/ website	Parish Council & portfolio holder if appointed		Decision on portfolio holder Sept 23
				A report on viability and demand	Set up working group Review demand Review options Make recommendations	Parish Council to seek volunteers to form a working group		Sept 24

<p>Climate Change and Environment</p>	<p>Ditch maintenance</p>	<p>Key roadside ditches are more effectively maintained</p>	<p>1. Parish Council to work via the Local Community Network of Parishes (LCN) to contract ditch maintenance</p> <p>2. PC Finance Committee investigate reclaiming relevant parts of Somerset Council (SC) budget</p> <p>3. PC to debate named councillor/s to hold in-house contracts</p>	<p>Freer flowing ditches/less road water</p> <p>SC Information about potential finance obtained</p> <p>Decision is reached re portfolio holder</p>	<p>1. Agree requirement</p> <p>2. Agree arrangement with LCN</p> <p>3. Commence contract</p>	<p>LCN</p> <p>PC Finance Committee</p> <p>Parish Council & portfolio holder if appointed</p>	<p>Funding for contracts</p>	<p>Finance Committee engage with SC Oct 23</p> <p>Contracts Commence Spring 24 if not before</p>
<p>Climate Change and Environment</p>	<p>Develop local action on environmental projects</p>	<p>Establish projects supported in review</p> <p>All parts of the parish are more actively engaged with environmental issues</p>	<p>1. Engagement with large & small landowners & gardeners on environmental management</p> <p>2. Promote Citizen Scientist approach</p> <p>3. Seek expert advice on best environmental practice on how PC works to incorporate best practice into any contracts it takes on.</p>	<p>Parish Council & CAGE to promote best practice</p> <p>Residents encouraged to take part in SWT Big Garden Count & RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch</p> <p>Increased interest & knowledge</p>	<p>1. Review current actions</p> <p>1A. Agree further engagement</p> <p>2. Counts submitted to relevant organisations</p> <p>3. Obtain advice, apply as appropriate</p> <p>Over time biodiversity levels increase</p>	<p>CAGE with support of Parish Council & interested residents</p> <p>Email Alert</p> <p>Advice from Blackdown Hills AONB & Farmers Wildlife Advisory Group FWAG</p>	<p>Residents & Volunteers</p> <p>Funding for promotional material/ community information</p>	<p>Dec 23</p> <p>Further engagement agreed April 24</p> <p>Counts occur annually</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

Climate Change and Environment	Climate emergency	Improve understanding about climate change across parish	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review benefit/implications of Parish Council declaring a climate emergency 2. Work with Neroche Newsletter/Website 3. Take vote at next Annual Parish Meeting 	Regular articles in Newsletter Relevant projects/management on Website Yes/no decision	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand benefits 2. Newsletter article published 3. Understand implications Make decision 	Parish Council & Community Action Environment Group Newsletter & Website	Time	Ongoing June 24
Climate Change and Environment	Litter	Reduce litter across the parish	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage regular walkers to pick up litter 2. Promote how residents can report fly tipping 3. Identify if there is interest in re-starting a litter picking group 	Less litter Residents become more involved in looking after parish How to report fly tipping goes on website & newsletter	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create litter volunteer team 2. Confirm litter 'hot spots' 2A. Fly tipping is reported Create rota	CAGE & Parish Council Forestry England Residents & walkers	Litter picking kit Volunteers	Ongoing

<p>Climate Change and Environment</p>	<p>Water course quality</p>	<p>Assess current water quality</p>	<p>1. Work with the Environment Agency to assess if there are issues</p> <p>2. Inform householders on management of septic tanks</p>	<p>Maintain/improve water quality</p>	<p>1. Communicate with Environment Agency to assess options</p>	<p>Parish Council</p> <p>Neroche Newsletter</p>	<p>Time</p>	<p>May 24</p>
<p>Climate Change and Environment</p>	<p>Biodiversity</p>	<p>Protect/enhance biodiversity</p>	<p>1. Project to plant wildflowers on verges & greens</p> <p>2. Research feasibility of green corridor for nature.</p> <p>3. Investigate current status of mapping within parish for ancient & veteran oaks. If there are gaps in the mapping take remedial action</p>	<p>Audit of current plants on Curland Green Wildflower planting in Spring</p> <p>Meeting with specialist advisor re green corridor (AONB)</p> <p>Investigation completed</p> <p>Enhanced biodiversity</p>	<p>1. Curland Green is planted at appropriate time of year using best practice guidelines</p> <p>2. If green corridor feasible funding application made</p> <p>3. Create working group to map ancient oak trees</p> <p>Training occurs Group commence mapping</p>	<p>CAGE & volunteers</p> <p>CAGE & Parish Council</p> <p>CAGE & AONB Advisor</p> <p>Somerset Environmental Record Centre (SERC) & CAGE</p>	<p>Time</p> <p>Money for flower seeds</p> <p>Planting tools</p> <p>Funding for green corridor mapping advice and to support subsequent activities</p> <p>Funding for oak tree mapping project</p>	<p>April/May 2024</p> <p>Funding for research applied for Oct 23</p> <p>Research on green corridors commences following successful funding</p> <p>Contact with SERC made by Sept 23</p>

Rights of Way (ROW)	Quality of upkeep/access	All rights of way to be well maintained to British Standards PC to debate whether named councillor/s will hold ROW Portfolio	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain dialogue with landowners 2. Work with local authority re enforcement 3. Encourage use of 'Adopt a Path' Scheme 4. Establish active group to repair/replace ROW furniture 5. Ensure usage and reporting of issues 	<p>Users and landowners are engaged</p> <p>Walkers able to see blocked paths opened</p> <p>Local walkers assist in keeping ROW in good condition</p> <p>Walkers able to see improvements to ROW & furniture</p> <p>Repair/replace volunteers receive any necessary training</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PC to keep pressure on local authority re enforcement of access/conditions rights 2. Blocked routes are opened 3. Overgrown ROW are better managed 4. Working Group to repair/replace is established 5. Parish Council to communicate how issues can be reported 6. ROW Portfolio Councillor appointed 	<p>Parish Council</p> <p>Repair/Replace Working Group established</p> <p>Neroche Newsletter & Neroche Villages website/ posters in pub/hall</p>	<p>Funding for materials</p> <p>Identify if ROW dept still run H&S course for volunteers</p>	<p>Feb 24</p> <p>Dec 23</p>
Rights of Way	Dog poo	Reduce incidents	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agreement to place bins at main hotspots Install poo bins 2. Public education 	<p>Cleaner footpaths</p> <p>Less poo bags left lying around</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start poo bin trial 2. Meet with local forestry team 3. Work with Forestry England re public education 	<p>Parish Council Parish and Forestry England</p> <p>Residents and Walkers</p>	<p>Cost of poo bin trail from precept</p>	<p>Sept 23</p> <p>Oct 23</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
Broadband and Mobile	Superfast Broadband	Availability of superfast Broadband	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor installation progress 	<p>Availability to all households as per Connecting Devon & Somerset (CDS)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Project implemented on time 	<p>Parish Council CDS Somerset Council</p>		<p>Dec 23</p>
Housing	Potential Orchard Portman housing development	Neroche Parish's 'Open Countryside'	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lobby Somerset Council to 	<p>Parish retains its Open</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work collectively with nearby 	<p>Parish Council</p>	<p>Legal advice SALC advice</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

		status is maintained long term Ensure local views are incorporated if any Taylor Wimpey plans go ahead	maintain parish's 'Open Countryside' status 2. Monitor the situation and make representations as necessary	Countryside status	affected parish councils			
Community and Social Activities	Parish life	Satisfaction with parish life is maintained and improved	1. Parish Council to prioritise the creation of working groups, as guided by the survey, and build them into the overall parish plan	Working groups in place	1. Deadlines achieved	Parish Council and local groups		Ongoing
Community and Social Activities	Neroche Hall	Support/encourage the Neroche Hall team	1. Share the survey results with the Hall Committee 2. Encourage new members to join hall committee 3. Encourage community to put on events	New Hall activities New members on hall committee	1. Parish Council considers nominated member to attend Hall meetings	Neroche Hall Committee	Finance to support maintenance & upgrades to the hall	Ongoing
Communication	Communication of news/events across the parish	Improve awareness	1. Review usage & awareness of parish noticeboards 2. Review usage & awareness of parish website	Enhanced community engagement	1. Review of noticeboards completed 2. Enhanced parish website in operation	Parish Council Newsletter team Website team Parish Magazine	Funding for newsletter Volunteers to keep parish notice boards tidy & up to date	Notice boards audit Oct 23 Enhanced website by Sept 23 June 24

Children and Young People		PC has more awareness of subject						
Business		PC has more awareness of subject						
Parish Council Matters	Community awareness and engagement	<p>Improve community awareness and engagement</p> <p>Improve awareness of PC matters In Orchard Portman</p>	<p>1. Review how the profile of the Parish Council can be raised</p> <p>2. Consider social media site for use by Parish Council</p>	<p>All working groups in place and effective</p> <p>All Parish Councillor roles filled</p>	<p>1. Review conducted</p> <p>2.Recommendations accepted & begin implementation</p> <p>3. Following acceptance of NCR Report Parish Councillors take on specific portfolios/responsibilities</p> <p>4. Audit of Parish Notice Boards conducted</p> <p>5. Site for Parish Notice Board in Orchard Portman to be explored</p>	<p>Parish Council</p> <p>Newsletter team Website team Parish Magazine</p> <p>LCN Area 18 Chard & Blackdown Hills</p>	tba	<p>July 23</p> <p>Dec 23</p> <p>Dec 23</p>

The action plan is a live working document that will be amended and change as projects and activities develop. A report on the progress of the Neroche Community Review will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting

Updated September 2023