

Clerk Report – Hedgehog Highways January 2024

Council Actions Required

- That council determine the style of sign required
- That council determine the number to be purchased and the use of earmarked reserves (EMR 338 4 yr. plan reserves) to do so
- That council determine how the project is to be administered and advertised.

Background

NMPC agreed the 'hedgehog highways' project as part of the business planning working group recommendations.

The support of this project will enable NMPC to engage with residents and to draw attention to the need to protect our native species which is on decline. It is naturally a suitable project to build upon the commitment that NMPC is showing in supporting the environment around us which started with the biodiversity projects rewilding some of the green areas in the parish and the planting of native bulbs, pollinators and wildflower species.

Further information on hedgehog houses and the positive impact can be found by clicking this link <u>Home - Hedgehog Street</u>

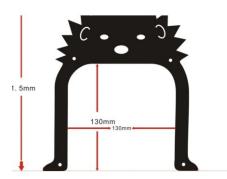
Biodiversity is a cornerstone of the local Climate Action Network, of which NMPC is a member. Dacorum Climate Action Network (Dacorum CAN) brings together local individuals and organisations to 'think global and act local'.

The aim of the network is to bring about meaningful change and provide a platform that will support, educate, encourage and enable people to make positive environmental changes in their everyday lives. These collective actions will help to tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency by reducing emissions and increasing biodiversity.

Further information can be found by clicking this link Dacorum Climate Action Network

Option 1 'package' option £150 for 50

Retail 'pack' as used by KLPC. Includes 50 signs plus 50 information leaflets. Each purchase also supports hedgehog conservation. <u>Hedgehog Shop (hedgehogsrus.co.uk)</u>





Option 2 Sign only £225 for 50

Ethical producer £4.50 each <u>People's Trust for Endangered Species (C) | Manufacturer (nhbs.com)</u>
Recycled acrylic



Option 3 'gateway' only £200 for 50

2 pack £8

<u>2 pack of hedgehog highway signs</u> -this supplier appears to be supporting sustainability and also hedgehog charities with each purchase



Future Actions for a later date/budget consideration

Would council wish this to be an annual project or a one-off (if required to be raised at budget setting by Cllrs in October 2024)

Suggested Alternatives and Quotes

Other suppliers of hedgehog signs/book used by DBC NHBS - Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation

<u>Hedgehog Highway Sign - The British Hedgehog Preservation Society Online Shop</u> (britishhedgehogs.org.uk) – 2 signs for £5