

Daubuz Moor – Future Management Plan:

Recommendation:

The Committee is requested to consider if the management plan for Daubuz Moor include an aim to seek designation of Daubuz Moor as a local nature reserve.

Background

At the last meeting of the Parks and Amenities Committee on 5 July 2022, Members were asked to consider if a management plan for Daubuz Moor be developed. During discussion I reported a specific plan for Daubuz Moor was under development. The Committee recommended (P&AC Minute 95):

“That Truro City Council continue to manage and develop Daubuz Moor as a nature reserve alongside a long-term ambition to achieve formal designation of Daubuz Moor as a nature reserve.”

This was ratified by Council on 25 July 2022. A link to the agenda and minutes of his meeting is set out as follows for information.

[Parks And Amenities - Truro City Council](#)

The aim is that management plans will be developed over time to cover each of the open spaces the City Council manage.

Truro City Council: Open Space Management Plan

A draft plan was developed with the Countryside Ranger in 2020 and was considered by the Committee on 7 September 2020 (P&AC Minute 151). During discussion it was suggested a range of policies could be developed alongside the plan to support the countryside ranger in their work. The Minutes of this meeting, including the draft plan, were reported to Council on 28 September 2020. A link to the agenda and minutes of this meeting is set out as follows for information.

[Full-Council-Agenda-September-2020.pdf \(truro.gov.uk\)](#)

Truro City Council: Policies and Objectives to Support the Open Space Management Plan

Draft supporting policies and objectives were considered by the Committee on 10 February 2021 and a couple of minor amendments were suggested (P&AC Minute 356) The final draft policies and objectives document were recommended to Council for adoption. (Council considered the Committee Minutes on 1 March 2021 and no changes were made (Council Minute 396 (01 03 21)).

Local Nature Reserve Status

Following the July meeting, Councillor Roden undertook some initial research into the process for the establishing a local nature reserve. Currently there are no Local Nature Reserves in the City of Truro Parish and only a few across Cornwall such as Bodmin Beacon, Red River Valley and Kit Hill. See the following link to Cornwall Council’s website and information about four local nature reserves in Cornwall

[Local Nature Reserves - Cornwall Council](#)

Information is available for these areas providing details on how and where to access the nature reserves, including footpaths and car parks, with the aim of encouraging public use. A key requirement of designating an area of land as a local nature reserve is making the land accessible to members of the public. Indeed, it is a requirement such reserves are accessible.

Government Requirements on Registration of an Area as a Local Nature Reserve

Central government guidance for the setting up and management of local nature reserves is available on the gov.uk website - see the following link:

[Local nature reserves: setting up and management - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Resource Implications

Staff resources, in particular the Countryside Ranger Team, Parks and Amenities Manager, and Parks Administrator, are already involved in developing a suite of management plans for individual open spaces in a sustainable approach. This work needs to be set against a backdrop of 'business as usual', the on-going organisation restructure and current staffing pressures. Different areas may also require varying levels of support depending on the size and location and working with interested parties, including friends' groups. Members should be aware that this work forms part of the Countryside Ranger Team's work plan and additional demands will need to be considered and prioritized according with the Parks and Amenities Manager. This work is not directly reflected in the Council's Medium Term Plan.

Equal Opportunities / Diversity Implications

The Parks Department continues to seek to improve access to its open areas, although this has occurred over time in a rather unplanned manner. The Countryside Ranger Team in particular continues to improve access to areas such as Daubuz Moor and Coosebean.

Options

Work is on-going by the Countryside Ranger to develop individual management plans for areas of open space which are managed by Truro City Council. These will be reported to Councillors in due course.

- The Committee may consider if the plan being developed for Daubuz Moor include an aim of achieving local nature reserve status within a particular timescale.
- The Committee may consider not including an aim of achieving local nature reserve status for Daubuz Moor.

Recommendation:

The Committee is requested to consider if the management plan for Daubuz Moor include an aim to seek designation of Daubuz Moor as a local nature reserve.

Report authors:

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31 August 2022