

Dear Mike

Thank you for the opportunity to input to the process.

In respect to the request concerning the proposal below in the Pannal and Burn Bridge Neighbourhood Plan:

· *Pursue Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status for Allen Wood (together with associated woodland management, tree planting and signage/interpretation) and Sandy Bank Wood/Quarry.*

Both of these sites are owned by Harrogate Borough Council. Local Nature Reserve status requires land to be owned by or leased to the local authority. Equally, management of the sites needs to be considered and a management plan needs to be submitted as part of the application process. Consideration also needs to be given to funding and partnership arrangements for the ongoing management and maintenance of the sites. The LNR designation requires public access to be introduced and maintained to these areas. HBC currently has no additional funding available to support these sites.

For information, the Sandy Bank Wood/Quarry site is already designated a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC).

I have no objections to the approach proposed but would need to see proposals on how the Parish will support and fund management of the site if LNR designation is achieved.

Feel free to come back to me if you have any further questions

Best wishes

Alison Wilson
Head of Parks and Environmental Services
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