

Abbey Ponds Working Group

A MEETING of the ABBEY PONDS WORKING GROUP will take place on **Monday 12 October 2026 at 7.30pm** to be held at Bruton Community Hall.

Group members, Town Councillors, Members of the Press and public are welcome to attend.

Councillors and members are reminded that they are expected to comply with the Nolan Principles and the Council's Code of Conduct, as well as showing respect for others in accordance with the law.

AGENDA

26/11: Apologies for absence.

26/12: Declarations of interest

Declarations of Interests Members to declare any interests, including disclosable pecuniary interests, they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any written requests from members for dispensations that accord with the Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e) (This does not preclude any later declaration).

26/13: Notes from the previous Working Group meeting, held on 13 July 2026.

To agree the Notes from the meeting on 13 July 2026 as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

26/14: Countryside Stewardship Application, and Management Plan for Dovecote and North Fields.

To receive an update about the Countryside Stewardship application, and the Management Plan for Dovecote and North Fields, from the Forest of Selwood Community Meadow and Restoration Coordinator.

26/15: Level Access: "Connecting Abbey Ponds"

To receive an update on any progress:

- a. Information signage on Abbey Ponds. To note that the installation of two of the stone signs is now complete. Installation of the final stone is being arranged.
- b. To review the final project spend against budget (if available).

26/16: Habitat management

- a. To note any recent work parties of King's Bruton student volunteers, under Bruton Town Council's Section 17 Management Agreement for the Scheduled Monument with Historic England.
- b. To receive an update about the Forest of Selwood's Meadows project from Charles Couzens.
- c. To schedule upcoming habitat management work parties.
- d. To consider modifications to the Habitat Management Plan.

26/17: Archaeology and Heritage.

To receive any updates on research since meetings.

- a. To receive the desk based archaeological assessment recently commissioned.

26/18: Vision for Habitat and Heritage.

To consider medium and longer-term objectives for ponds restoration.

- a. To discuss the proposal for a culvert and subsequent walk way (rather than a footbridge) near to the stepping stones at the lower end of Abbey Ponds (see papers provided by working group member).

26/19: Budget for 2027/2028

To consider any budget requirements for the management or further development of the Abbey Ponds area.

26/20: Date of next meeting.

The next meeting to take place on **Monday 11 January 2027**, in the Community Hall at 7.30pm. then quarterly thereafter. Agenda items to the Chair of the Working Group by Monday 5 January 2027.

END OF AGENDA