# **Alderbury Parish Council – October 2024**

**Item 122.24b: Update on Local Nature Recovery Strategy**

Delayed webinar - 30/9/24. The first draft of the LNRS is now out and WC want early responses on the areas they have chosen.  This is a 25 year plan which began in 2010 so is likely to continue regardless of the political colour of the government.

The 2,538 'priorities' that came out of the initial consultation which I attended earlier this year were narrowed down to about 7 habitats intended to deliver the best outcomes for nature recovery. Reminder: we have lost 20% of our species since 1970 due to environmental pressures like habitat loss. Nature friendly farming practices have been factored in everywhere to promote biodiversity as have hedgerows and ponds. A special working group is being set up on river/ wetland mosaics so no report appears as yet

The mapped areas are:

Natural Grassland Habitats

Chalk and Limestone Habitats

Woodland and Associated Habitats

Heathland, Acid Bog and Acid Grassland Habitats

Wetland Mosaic Habitat

Mosaic Habitat \*

Urban and Peri-Urban Habitat

Alderbury falls in the Mosaic Habitat, known as Juniper which comprises New Forest fringe area, chalk and woodland, natural grass. ***They are particularly wanting residents to report identified species eg bats, farm birds, european curlew, arable plant species, juniper, crickets, butterflies. This includes nesting opportunities for birds/ bats.***

Developers who want to build in a priority habitat such as ours will have to enhance habitat loss by an extra 15% BNG (biodiversity net gain) on top of the 10% already imposed, when this strategy is adopted next year.

There are 48 LNRS schemes throughout the UK and WC work within a 5km overlap with Dorset, Hants, Somerset, Glos.

If you are able to comment by **11th October** you can provide early feedback to influence the areas chosen on **localnaturerecoverystrategies@wiltshire.gov.uk****.** Public consultation will be in Feb 2025 with formal adoption in July. This plan will then only be reviewed every 3 - 10 years.

Mel