

South Downs Way Ahead
Partnership

South Downs Way Ahead Nature Improvement Area



Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics
Valuing Local Natural Capital

Delivery and successes of Ecosystem Service projects



*L&Ove Chalking up the
Benefits across Lewes*

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Who are we?

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics Group



Is a community group under the Transition Town Lewes banner that acts as a focal point in the wider community for

discussion and action that connects the local economy with the local environment

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

Valuing Local Natural Capital

Aims to promote awareness of the value of ecosystem services in the Lewes and Ouse Valley area

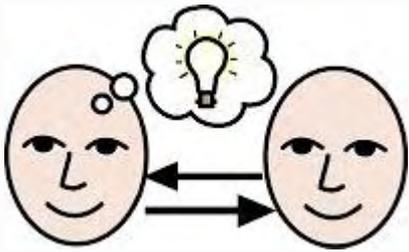


The emphasis is on the multiple benefits to wellbeing (including the economy) that can be achieved from a multi-functional landscape where natural ecosystem processes are protected and enhanced and where natural habitats are connected to promote sustainable flow of services and biodiversity.

'Chalking up the Benefits': What does Lewes get from the local environment?

The project aims to work with the community to explore and document the benefits to wellbeing in Lewes from our local environment (with a focus on the chalk downs) and to raise and spread awareness of the gains for the Lewes local economy from locally provided ecosystem services.





Getting the message across

- L&OVe have found that using the words **'ecosystem services'** does not tend to help members of the public, people in business and others in the community to readily engage with the concept.
- **We are thus using 'benefits from the environment', 'landscape benefits' and other terms instead of ecosystem services.**
 - We (thanks to Dr. John Parry) have also come up with another new way to **help get the message across**

naturegain

...what nature does for us and how we can help

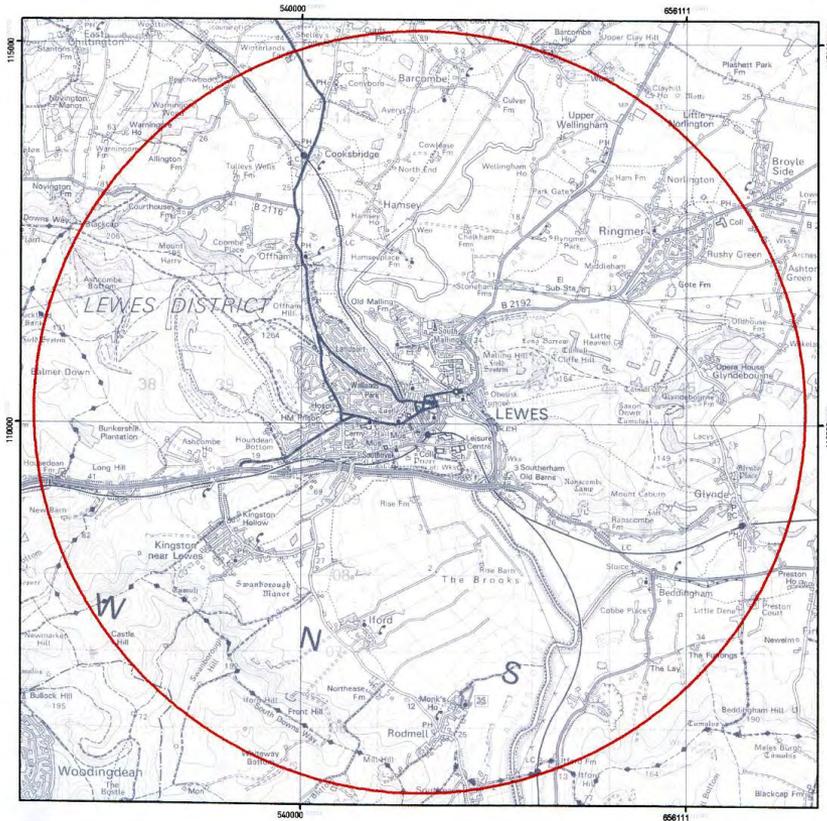
Source: Parry & Tingle, 2011

See <http://www.lewes-eco-nomics.org/naturegain/>

LINKAGES AMONGST BIODIVERSITY, ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND HUMAN WELLBEING



NATUREGAIN & THE EGG OF WELLBEING



**Ecosystem
wellbeing**

Natural Capital

*Biodiverse
Living Landscape*

naturegain

naturegain

naturegain

**Human
wellbeing**

**Economic
wellbeing**

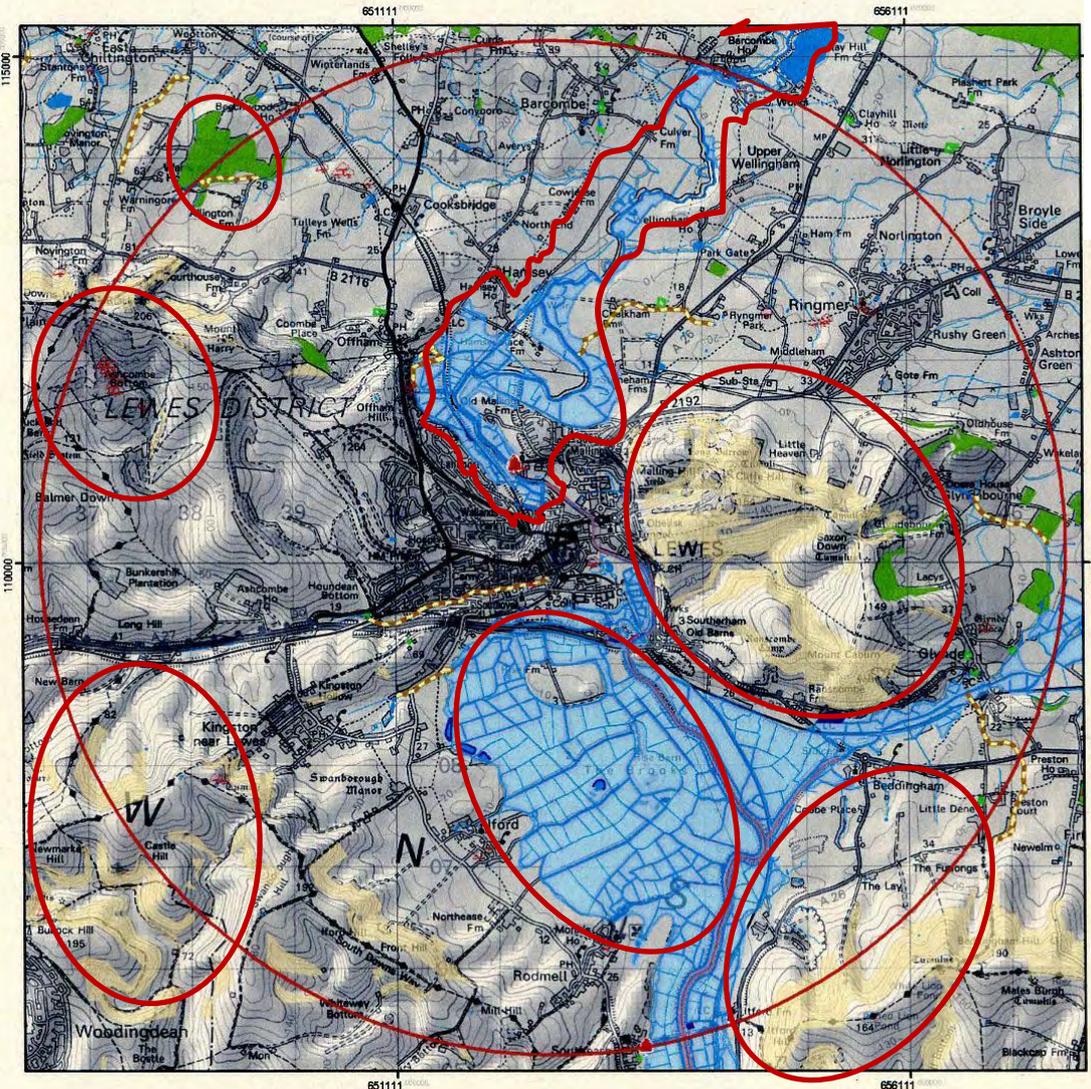
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Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

Valuing Local Natural Capital



Chalking up the Benefits



Output 1. **Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL): Identifying habitats**

Chalking up the Benefits

Lewes Railway Lands



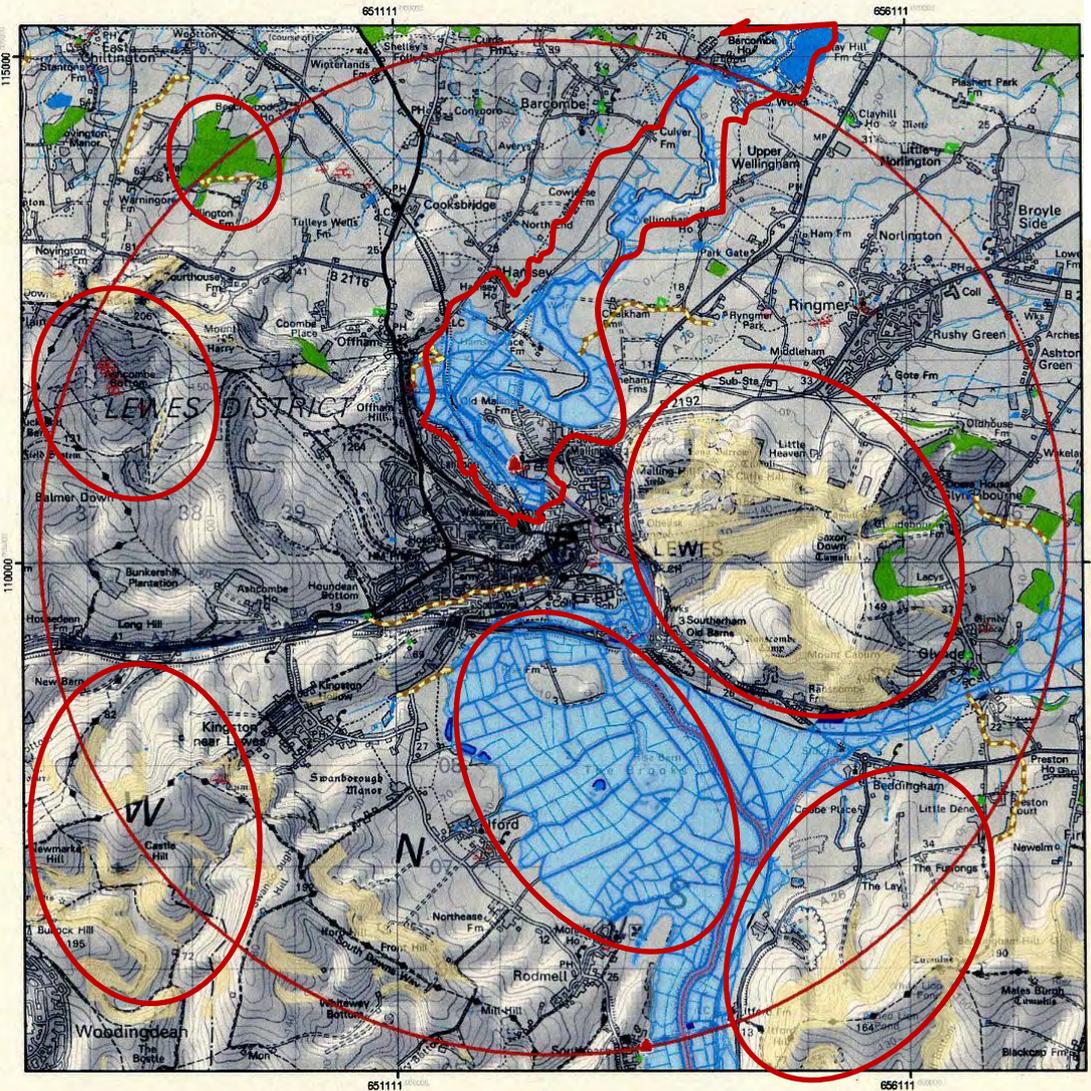
Lewes Downs



Output 1. **Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL)** – in partnership with Sussex Wildlife Trust, Lewes Railway Land Wildlife Trust & Natural England

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

Valuing Local Natural Capital



Chalking up the Benefits

- Legend:
- Blue line: Bodf oU4 uf sboluf f
 - Red line: Crtbl lqqrbs
 - Yellow dashed line: Di brh/Tuf bn
 - Green: Bodf oux pperboe
 - Blue: Dpbt ubrt lgppeqrjio/hsb/john bst i
 - Red: Dpbt ubrt brn bst i
 - Light blue: Juf sjebrtn vegtu
 - Yellow: Mpx rhoeldbnbf pvt lhsbt t rhoe
 - Dark blue: Pqf oIX bús
 - Dark blue: Sff ecf e
 - Green with diagonal lines: Ubejjpobtrpscl bse
 - Red circle: 5Km radius from town centre
- Scale: 1 2 3 Km

Output 1. **Valuing Ecosystem Services for Lewes (VESL): Awaiting EcoServe GIS results**

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

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'Chalking up the Benefits': Outputs to date

Output 2. Tools developed & key beneficiaries identified



Postcard from the Future: 25 years on

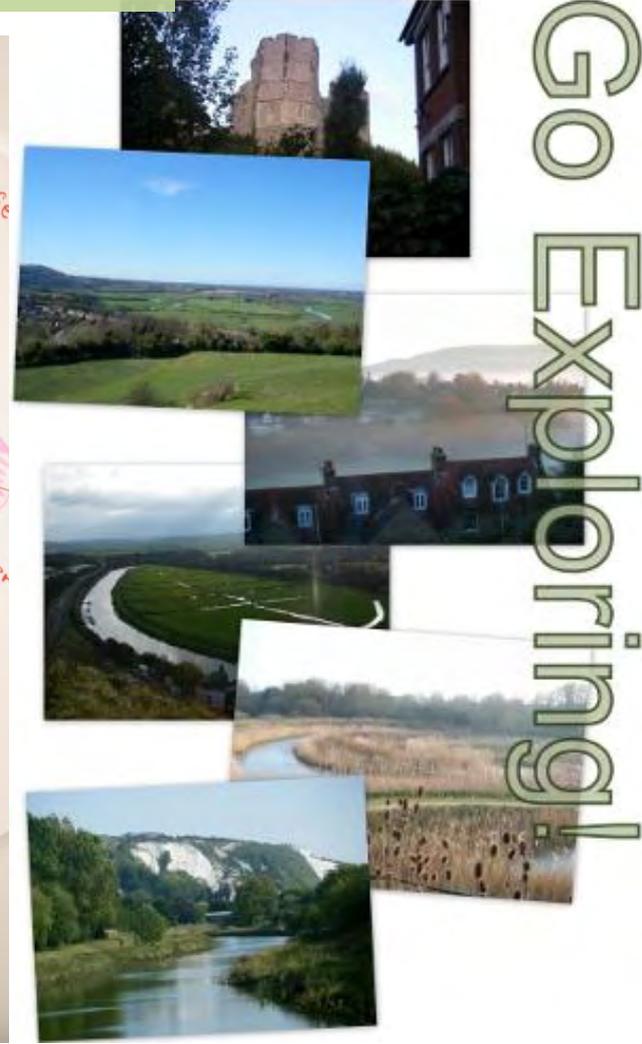
Imagine yourself in Lewes, 25 years ahead
- a future full of naturegain.
Walk around it in your mind
enjoy it!

Now, turn over the postcard and write to
tell us what you see and value

PLEASE POST YOUR POSTCARD IN THE BOX BY THE BIG BENEFITS GAME

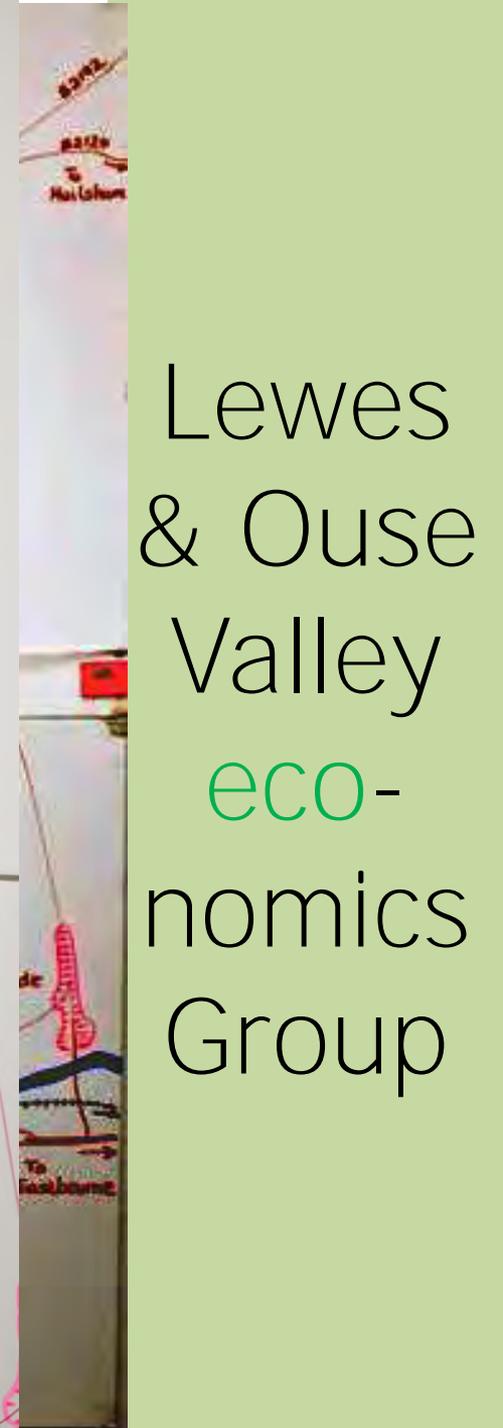
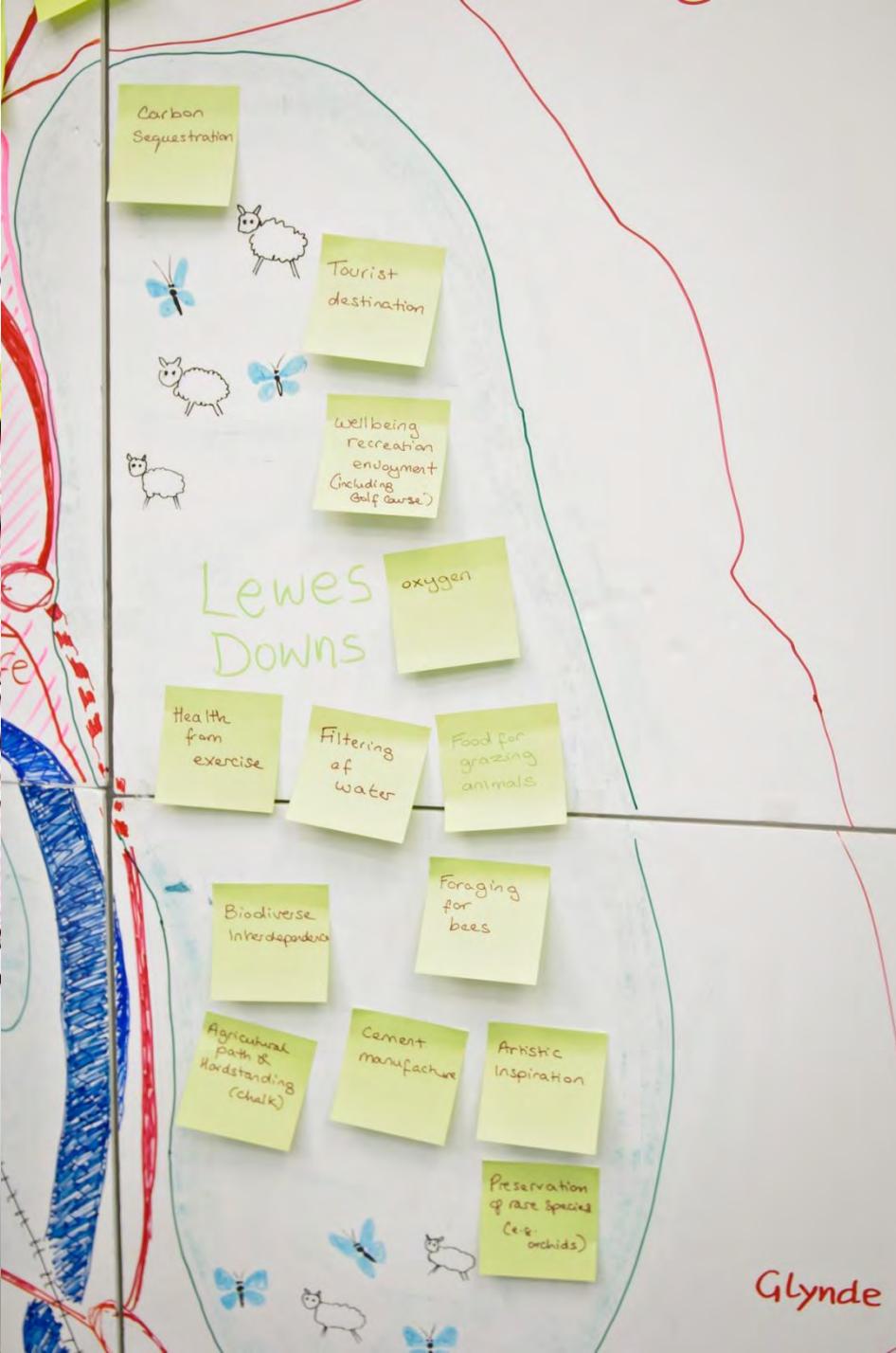


L&Ove 'Naturegain Going Local' workshops: Community visualisation of ecosystem services





L&Ove
'Nature
-gain
Going
Local'



Lewes
& Ouse
Valley
eco-
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Group

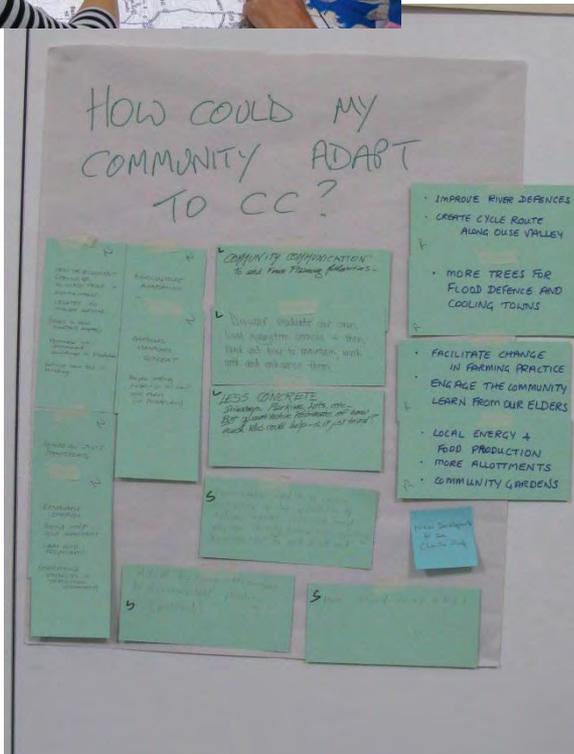
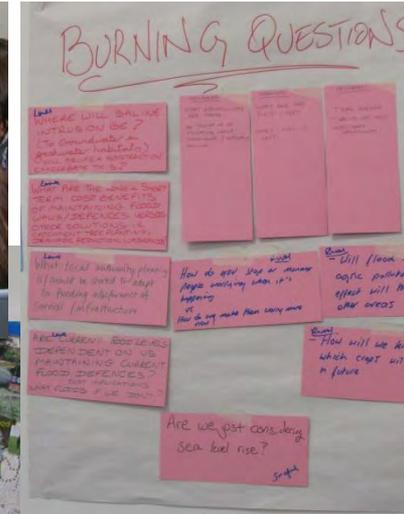
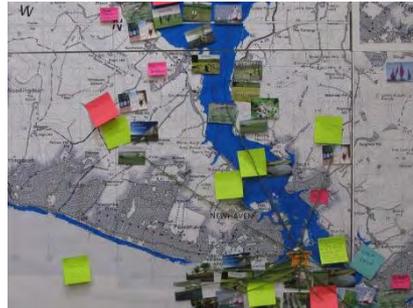


**Harveys
brewery**

**Capture &
filtering of
water**

Lewes
& Ouse
Valley
eco-
nomics
Group

CC2150 Ecosystem Services, Climate change & Community Adaptation workshop



CC2150 Ecosystem Services, Climate change & Community Adaptation workshop

NEXT STEPS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

- Seaford: long term sea defences
- Newhaven: raising awareness - high profile media awareness events, sports & activities
large scale public screenings of fly-through
- Looes: don't just scare people - give individuals tools & ideas e.g. driveway, house alterations
emphasis lifestyle changes re. bad being a quality of life. not just or more

- More workshops of this type e.g. Rodmell requested a 'drop-in' one in autumn - **Rural Parishes**

Next Steps in our Communities

- Build strong relationships between different communities - Looes, Seaford, etc!

L&OVe Experiences and lessons learned

We have achieved a great deal, but it's very much 'behind the scenes' – if you go out into Lewes and ask people if they've heard of naturegain, you'll mostly get a blank look

Start with 'easy' parts of the community and aim to spread from there

It's a difficult role for a community group -

Partnerships with professional bodies are vital

The actions and activities of a community group will **depend on members' interests and drive** – difficult to align with 'higher level' aims & objectives (e.g. those from TEEB, NEA, etc.) BUT of great value in reflecting the values/drives within the community

Chalking up the Benefits: **Best Practice?**

Jury is out!!

We've achieved some useful outputs and begun the engagement process across the community.

Only just starting with Business

Direct interaction with farmers & landowners still to begin but is being explored – indirectly (via partners)
it's underway

Good practice? Probably yes!
Best remains to be seen!



Naturegain walks



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MA (2005) *Ecosystems and Human Well-being: Synthesis*. Millennium Ecosystem Assessment. Island Press, Washington, DC.

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Natural England (2012) **Delivering the ecosystem approach on the ground – an evaluation of the upland ecosystem service pilots (NERR046).**

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4084624>

Natural England (2013) National Character Area Profile 125: South Downs.

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/7433354>

Parry, J. & Tingle, C.C.D. (2011) *New ways of thinking and a new word to match: 'Naturegain'* In: TTL (ed) Transition Town Lewes Newsletter. December News & Events. 2011.

http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/naturegain_dec_2011.html

<http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/524.html>

Prescott-Allen, R. (2001) *The Wellbeing of Nations: a country-by-country index of quality of life and the environment*. Island Press, USA. 342 pp. (Summary at

<http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/wonback.pdf>; preview copy – not complete)

TEEB (2010) **The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity. Report for Business - Executive Summary.**

<http://www.teebweb.org/Portals/25/Documents/TEEB%20for%20Business/TEEB%20for%20Bus%20Exec%20English.pdf>

Useful websites

Lewes & Ouse Valley eco-nomics

<http://www.transitiontownlewes.org/landove-group.html>

<http://www.lewes-eco-nomics.org>

Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

<http://www.maweb.org/en/index.aspx>

Natural Capital Initiative - <http://www.naturalcapitalinitiative.org.uk/>

Pavan Sukhdev (2011) The invisible economy.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZWnMaX_bsY

The economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB)

<http://www.teebweb.org/>

<http://www.teebweb.org/publications/>

UK National Ecosystem Assessment

<http://uknea.unep-wcmc.org/Resources/tabid/82/Default.aspx>

Valuing Nature Network - <http://www.valuing-nature.net/>

Useful websites

The UK Natural Capital Committee

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/naturalcapitalcommittee/>

Ecosystem Market Task Force

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/ecosystem-markets/>

The Natural Capital Project

<http://www.naturalcapitalproject.org/>