

Friends of Freshford Proposal

1. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to present the comments from the questionnaire on the Tyning Proposal presented by the Friends of Freshford.

2. Overview

2.1. Report Structure

This report has the following structure:

- Overview
 - Approach
 - High-Level Summary
 - Overview of the responses from Freshford residents
- Comments received for each of the projects in the FoF Proposal, including the stream and pond.
- Comments provided for children.
- General thoughts provided, including some email responses.

2.2. Approach

The questionnaire asked each respondent to grade their answer between 1 to 5, 'Definitely' to 'Not at All'. These are represented as:

- Definitely
- Possibly
- Neutral
- Possibly Not
- Not at All

The responses have been checked for duplicate entries, and 12 responses have been removed that were either duplicate entries or test entries.

A high-level summary is given below, and then there is a section for each optional comment in the questionnaire listing the comments received with the grading of the question, or questions, associated with the comment.

The text of each of the comments has not been altered.

Tying Questionnaire Results

2.3. High-Level Summary

- Number of Responses Received = 109
- Number of People covered =225
- Number of People stating that they are residents of Freshford = 201

Below are summary tables, and there are detail sections following for each of the questions asked.

2.4. Freshford Residents Responses

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Enhancing Humps with wildflowers	183	6	11	92%	3%	6%
Pedestrian Gaps on Humps	183	6	12	91%	3%	6%
Bollard Trees	166	7	28	83%	3%	14%
Tree Trunks as Barriers	164	11	26	82%	5%	13%
NW Corner Coppice	175	16	10	87%	8%	5%
Oak Tree	174	8	15	88%	4%	8%
Walnut Tree	174	15	11	87%	8%	6%
Small Lime Tree	180	10	8	91%	5%	4%
Community Orchard	162	15	15	84%	8%	8%
Water Tolerant Trees	157	16	19	82%	8%	10%
Hedge by High St.	184	8	9	92%	4%	4%

Question	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All	No Answer
Enhancing Humps with wildflowers	175	8	6	3	8	1
Pedestrian Gaps on Humps	159	24	6	0	12	0
Bollard Trees	147	19	7	7	21	0
Tree Trunks as Barriers	138	26	11	8	18	0
NW Corner Coppice	169	6	16	0	10	0
Oak Tree	154	20	8	1	14	4
Walnut Tree	161	13	15	2	9	1
Small Lime Tree	160	20	10	4	4	3
Community Orchard	144	18	15	1	14	9
Water Tolerant Trees	146	11	16	2	17	9
Hedge by High St.	171	13	8	1	8	0

Tying Questionnaire Results

2.5. Non-Freshford Residents Responses

Question	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree
Enhancing Humps with wildflowers	24	0	0	24	0	0
Pedestrian Gaps on Humps	22	2	0	22	2	0
Bollard Trees	24	0	0	24	0	0
Tree Trunks as Barriers	24	0	0	24	0	0
NW Corner Coppice	24	0	0	24	0	0
Oak Tree	21	3	0	21	3	0
Walnut Tree	22	2	0	22	2	0
Small Lime Tree	22	2	0	22	2	0
Community Orchard	22	2	0	22	2	0
Water Tolerant Trees	24	0	0	24	0	0
Hedge by High St.	17	7	0	17	7	0

Question	Definitely	Possibly	Neutral	Possibly Not	Not at All	No Answer
Enhancing Humps with wildflowers	24	0	0	0	0	0
Pedestrian Gaps on Humps	22	0	2	0	0	0
Bollard Trees	17	7	0	0	0	0
Tree Trunks as Barriers	16	8	0	0	0	0
NW Corner Coppice	20	4	0	0	0	0
Oak Tree	16	5	3	0	0	0
Walnut Tree	19	3	2	0	0	0
Small Lime Tree	19	3	2	0	0	0
Community Orchard	18	4	2	0	0	0
Water Tolerant Trees	21	3	0	0	0	0
Hedge by High St.	17	0	7	0	0	0

Tynning Questionnaire Results

3. Project 1 – Unmown Humps

3.1. Freshford Residents

Wildflowers on the Humps	Pedestrian Gaps on the Humps	Comments on Project 1 - Unmown Humps
Definitely	Definitely	we need a proper NE corner (school gate) entrance to the Tynning (i.e. as well as the school gate). The gap in the hedge needs a couple of steps to make it work properly. This NE corner gateway is one of the most important and must be retained as it allows people to use the Tynning to cross from one corner to the other.
Definitely	Definitely	These should be protected to ensure that vehicles do not encroach on to the mown section of the Tynning
Definitely	Definitely	I think the unknown humps should be much wider. What else would the land be used for? Open grass is really a terrible use of land. I'd like to see the unmown grass area extend all the way down the hill.
Definitely	Definitely	Definate pedestrian access points along the Tynning would encourage people not to trample over any wild flowers.
Definitely	Definitely	The unmown hump, Tynning field edge has recently suffered severe erosion from vehicles, near the boar oak, even though this is at the highest part of the field edge. It is most likely that extra protection will be needed for the humps, such as boulders, felled lengths of tree trunks and stumps.
Definitely	Definitely	In winter time, how will vehicles be persuaded not cut in to the humps?
Definitely	Definitely	Using tree trunks to stop cars eroding the bank, and to create a valuable wildlife habitat might be a cost-effective solution.
Definitely	Definitely	An excellent idea to bring biodiversity to a piece of land and at the same time make it more attractive
Definitely	Definitely	Enhancing the humps will provide more of a barrier between the green and the road giving protection for small children and dogs with the increasing traffic flow.
Definitely	Definitely	Some devil's bit scabious already planted and there are daffodil bulbs there too
Definitely	Definitely	currently only spring flowers here, would be lovely to have through year as far as poss
Definitely	Definitely	Sound like great idea for creating wildlife corridors
Definitely	Definitely	Cars will pull onto the humps unless solid obstructions, such as unused quarry stones, are scattered along their length.
Definitely	Definitely	I'm not bothered by nettles and other 'weeds' but do we have an answer for those that are?

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Wildflowers on the Humps	Pedestrian Gaps on the Humps	Comments on Project 1 - Unmown Humps
Definitely	Definitely	The area beyond the humps also has quite good quality wildflowers (unlike most of the Tyning) and a wider "no mow" area should be considered.
Definitely	Definitely	People should be made aware of ticks and risk of lymes disease in areas of long unknown grass.
Definitely	Definitely	Use to promote No-Mow May for gardens too.
Definitely	Definitely	As was mentioned in the community forum - I do also think we should consider planting a hedge along this part of the Tyning. I think it would be a lovely addition creating more habitat for wildlife as well.
Definitely	Definitely	I think they are a brilliant idea and I love the whole concept.
Definitely	Possibly	An easy hit to aid wildlife and protect from encroachment by cars.
Definitely	Possibly	Steps made with wood are preferable
Definitely	Possibly	Need to ensure that dogs children horses people all keep off it. It needs to be for insects only. Not sure how this can be achieved.
Definitely	Possibly	Gaps through the "Humps" for pedestrian access/refuge are to be welcomed; however, seven such seems to me excessive. The provision of gaps at either end of the Tyning, coupled with two additional ones equidistant from each end, I should have thought sufficient, and would allow for additional planting along the remaining length of the hump.
Definitely	Possibly	possibly to engage certain classes from the primary school in the planting of the wildflowers so as to educate them on it as it is more likely that younger children would run through this area, possibly destroying the wildflowers/habitat for insects
Definitely	Neutral	Would prefer access gaps be kept to as small a number as possible. Think the current three footpaths over the Tyning create natural walkways and would not want to see lots of new tracks starting to form
Definitely	Neutral	They should be as large as possible. Why not leave the whole field unmown?
Definitely	Neutral	I think widening the hump for more wild flowers is a brilliant idea.
Definitely	Definitely Not	There is no need to provide further access points. Present access is sufficient. If cut throughs are made then inevitably the verges will become eroded and vehicles will start using the cut throughs to pull over to allow two vehicles to pass.
Definitely	Definitely Not	Planting bulbs on the north hump is good. There are already pedestrian gaps at the west and east ends. Do we really need additional pedestrian gaps?

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Wildflowers on the Humps	Pedestrian Gaps on the Humps	Comments on Project 1 - Unmown Humps
Possibly	Definitely	An attractive and efficient way of enhancing a boundary which keeps traffic off the Tynning
Possibly	Possibly	Access of only really needs across (or through) the hump at either end
Neutral	Definitely	I like the idea, but have concerns about the impact on road safety, specifically cars on Tynning Lane having reduced visibility of pedestrians - especially small children - who may spill onto the road from the field.
Possibly Not	Definitely Not	The unmown hump have deteriorated in height and stature, - erosion has taken place. This needs to be dealt with in the first instance. Recommendation is for these to be heightened as the first priority.
Possibly Not	Definitely Not	The humps have become eroded and need resetting to raise them again. That I think is the first priority.
Definitely Not	Definitely	Great idea to broaden the strip but this is already the most bio-diverse part of the Tynning. Let's see where nature gets to rather than try to prettify it with plants from elsewhere. Other plants from nearby - rosebay willow herb, snakeshead fritillaries etc - will seed themselves if the conditions are right.
Definitely Not	Neutral	Wildflower meadows are beautiful but flowers on humps will look artificial
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	better to have a hedge for nature
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	Any pedestrian access need to be fully inclusive for everyone; for example wheelchair users.

3.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Wildflowers on the Humps	Pedestrian Gaps on the Humps	Comments on Project 1 - Unmown Humps
Definitely	Definitely	A wild bee hive?
Definitely	Definitely	A very good idea to sow and plant in this already environmentally good location
Definitely	Neutral	old stone walls provide high diversity of species and a refuge for invertebrates, they can be artificially created at a low level (as we have done at various locations in Friary) Its not ideal to have people trampling over such areas (it seems the old fence had much the same effect) and widening will perforce destroy part(s) of the hump If it is a reservoir of 'stock' it is best left alone as much as possible

Tying Questionnaire Results

4. Project 2 - Bollard Trees with Felled Tree Trunks

4.1. Freshford Residents

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
Definitely	Definitely	A much better solution than the existing bollards which need replacing at regular intervals and are not big enough to deter vehicles. It is important that they extend from the existing passing place in the direction of the War Memorial.
Definitely	Definitely	Another easy hit and will look beautiful. Felled trees are a particularly important habitat, we need to allow cut and dying trees to remain more commonly around the village because it aids so many creatures from bottom to top of the foodchain.
Definitely	Definitely	This will be a beautiful addition Tying Lane as well as a valuable wildlife asset and will help to protect the grass edges from cars and larger vehicles.
Definitely	Definitely	Good idea as long as there are breaks for pedestrians to get through them
Definitely	Definitely	There are some ideal sized oak tree trunks up on Dyson land.
Definitely	Definitely	Much better than the bollards that are there at the moment which are constantly being knocked down and, as a consequence, allowing cars on to the Tying. This is a practical as well as biodiverse solution.
Definitely	Definitely	Could add a Bug Hotel somewhere which could be a family project as in Limpley Stoke
Definitely	Definitely	Preservation of existing gaps & seating to see the view through the trees
Definitely	Definitely	My only concern would be the use of wood from infected Ash trees. Would this not risk further spread of the disease?
Definitely	Definitely	Nothing to add to that really, more trees and dead wood for the wildlife is excellent.
Definitely	Definitely	There are likely to be not just felled trees but fallen ones too in the next few years which could be used
Definitely	Definitely	As long as logs with ash die back are not going to be a source of disseminating the disease.
Definitely	Definitely	I would love to sponsor a tree!
Definitely	Definitely	So important to have some dead wood habitat and great for village children to climb along.
Definitely	Definitely	I fully support the living bollard trees. Not only does it provide a solution to a problem of constantly having to spend money to replace the bollards it also can provide the community with the opportunity to have memorial trees in a prominent easily accessible part of the village

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
		where they can be appreciated. They will also prevent cars from driving and parking on the grass verge. Not to mention how lovely they will look!
Definitely	Definitely	Asking for donations to sponsor trees
Definitely	Possibly	Planting a few trees seems sensible
Definitely	Neutral	<p>An avenue of the proposed trees would be most attractive and really define that this southerly area of the Tynning should be respected by cars. With two passing places, there should hopefully be plenty of opportunity for cars to pass.</p> <p>No so sure about the tree trunks. From what I have read, the view would be very much to keep as many ash trees in place even with die back rather than remove them. Logistics of getting lengths of fallen trees to correct lengths to place between trees could be difficult</p>
Definitely	Neutral	I fear they would be damaged by cars when trying to pass each other
Possibly	Definitely	Leaf fall from the bollard trees onto the road may need to be regularly cleared in autumn to ensure the road surface is not hazardous. Regular tree surveys will need to be carried out for insurance and safety purposes for trees on a roadside.
Possibly	Possibly Not	Felled trees always seem to mature into a slimy, smelly mess. How do we prevent this?
Possibly	Definitely Not	You propose too many trees. Its fine to have them at the High Street end, where there is plenty of room. At the War Memorial end, there are alot of walkers that need to walk on the grass (to avoid traffic). Trees get in the way. There are already loads of trees down the hillside to the river.
Neutral	Definitely	The trees might create a bit of a 'no man's land' to their south. View up the Iford valley should be kept.
Neutral	Possibly	To keep cars from edging onto the grass, the trees or logs need to be close to the road. Living trees might have to be planted too far from the road to be effective. Felled Tree trunks (large) would provide a barrier for a while but would then rot. Use quarried stone instead?
Neutral	Neutral	I agree it is highly desirable to stop cars parking on the Tynning. However this whole scheme is totally ignoring the existence of the motorcar, 21st century fact of life with cars getting larger every year (viz shop ca rpark at preschool drop-off time).

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
Neutral	Definitely Not	<p>I am not against the provision of bollard trees per se; however,I would worry, following the initial enthusiasm after installation,that sufficient ongoing maintenance would take place- were they to be allowed to "bush" out,and project onto the metalled surface of the "Tynning"</p> <p>their branches could prove hazardous to both pedestrians and vehicles alike,particularly at night or in low lighting conditions.Assurances should be sought that this aspect would be addressed.(in a way that does not seem to have occurred in terms of the fairly recently created"gap" through Tynning Wood with its far views towards Friary-branches now once again obscuring the view).</p> <p>I would not wish to see felled tree trunks along the perimeter;over time,as they rotted down,they would prove somewhat of an eyesore,and detract from the amenity value of the Tynning.(Insects in the area would appear to be adequately provided for within the woodland beyond!).</p> <p>At this point,I would turn my attention to the "Passing Place" issue; the propo to create a further one is to be welcomed.As both a motorist and pedestrian user of the Tynning effectively several times every day,I have ample opportunity to observe traffic movements.</p> <p>I am certainly no advocate of unnecessary additional "street furniture" but,if you are to create a passing place facility,it appears to me imperative that it is so described.There have been many instances during the last year when visitors to the village have parked cars there as they picnic or walk in the area;there is no notice to tell them not to do so; the upshot being that on several occasions,two vehicles coming from both directions have met along the Tynning length,and have found themselves in considerable difficulty as a result of parked cars.Delivery,Contractors,and private vehicles are a fact of life,and sufficient account must be taken of their existance!</p>
Possibly Not	Possibly	<p>Could there be a mixture of trees and bollards. This would keep the area more open.</p>
Possibly Not	Neutral	<p>Even using carefully selected tree varieties I feel that introducing 18 trees will detract from the lovely sweeping open view along the Tynning boundary. I accept that keeping parked vehicles off the grass is important but I would prefer to use the solution currently in place on the other side - create another humped wild flower bank with maybe three or four trees, randomly placed along its length. Similarly with using felled trunks. Doing this all the way along will risk the area looking like a suburban park rather than a village green.</p>

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
Possibly Not	Definitely Not	We think the present bollards do the job pretty well. The trees you suggest will grow branches 3m out from the trunk and will be damaged by traffic if they are planted close to the road. We suggest Populus nigra (there are some already close by so these will enhance the profile of the Tynning and look as if they belong; Carpinus betulus Fastigiata Frans Fontaine would provide autumn colour and Liquidambar styraciflua 'slender silhouette' would look stunning and only grows 1m wide in 20 years. However they would have to be planted away from the road as well. Why not keep the present bollards and plant behind them, leaving space to walk on the grass?
Definitely Not	Definitely	Best to leave the Tynning as an open space, A hump on the south side or felled tree trucks is good solution.
Definitely Not	Possibly	My concern with regards to this proposal is that it would make the area dark to walk up at night (particularly in the winter). As this route is often used for public access by walkers abs runners I think there is a safety issue potentially arising which should be discussed. There are many trees just a little further in the bank and whilst I think it's a nice idea the darkening of the route is an issue for me. If this could be resolved then it would be good.
Definitely Not	Neutral	Living bollard trees in their proposed location will have an impact upon visibility from the Sharpstone end of the Tynning, and this will eventually impact vehicle driver visibility on the Tynning. Trees will also impact the tarmac surface on the causeway, lifting it over time. An alternative consideration would be to plant the bollard trees just below the top of the bank, above Tynning wood boundary. Using fallen logs as boundary protectors for the verges seems rather unnatural and would need to be considered carefully so as not to be synthetic or too regimental.
Definitely Not	Neutral	I have said that I dislike the idea of a row of trees alongside the road. It will be too formal and will inevitably divide the Tynning into two parts. I have also noted the 'issue' of the water supply pipe which may prevent the planting of trees anyway. I am attracted by your proposal to enhance the wild life rich mound on the north side of the road and suggest that you replace the bollards on the south side with a similar mound, which would, presumably, not be inhibited by the water pipe. The 'sweep' of the Tynning would remain unbroken.
Definitely Not	Possibly Not	Not supporting bollard trees because the line of sight along the Tynning needs to be kept clear. And tree trunks as barriers could look very artificial in the bigger scheme of things, as this is common land. In addition, the proposed second parking area on the Tynning has not been properly scoped and costed, including

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
		responsibility for through-life maintenance of the passing place/s .
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	Bollard trees would detract from the open aspect of the Tynning. They would need to be planted close up to the road, where the bollards are now, or people would park up against them. Close up to the road, they would be intimidating to drive past. The trunks on the road side would need to be kept clear to at least 3 m high to allow taller vehicles to pass - constant management and expense. By all means leave fallen trees to rot down where they fall but don't use them as barriers. They would rapidly become messy and detract from the Tynning. How about adopting the idea of a slightly raised hump along the whole length to demarcate the road edge, as with the other side (but no imported 'wild' flowers, please)?
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	Too suburban and too ordered and pretty for my taste. I think it undermines the essential integrity of the Tynning as open space.
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	beware that a line of trees can obscure motorists' view may need to off set
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	Allow woodland to cover this side of The Tynning
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	I don't fully understand the reasoning behind these. I like the idea of the row of smaller trees but I don't think the trees should take the place of the bollards, but be planted between the existing bollards (slightly set back from them). The bollards are relatively discreet and serve a purpose in that they stop parking. They are easily replaced if they do get hit by cars. Trees will be damaged if they get hit and then the attractive effect of a row of trees will be lost. I think the trunks laid between them is a shame. Trunks laid for invertebrates habitat etc. can be accomodated further back towards the line of woodland. I think these will spoil the look of the regularly spaced row of trees which is more of a 'designed' feature.
Definitely Not	Definitely Not	I would prefer a raised edge to the south side of Tynning Lane, not dissimilar to the one that already exists on the other side of the road, with spaces for vehicles to pass,

4.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
Definitely	Definitely	Make some bug hotels with the felled trees and brash?

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Bollard Trees	Felled Tree Trunks as Barriers	Comments on Project 2 - Living Bollard Trees & Felled Tree Trunks
Definitely	Definitely	Perhaps reduce the number of crab apple trees and replace the reduction with wild cherry. Again food and wonderful blossom in the Spring
Definitely	Definitely	Fallen logs are an excellent habitat for insects. A 'bug hotel' could be created for the entertainment of children (it will rot down and need to be replaced every 5 years or so)
Definitely	Possibly	Felled tree trunks. All according how they are positioned. Access to the grass by all must be kept. Question whether or not the felled trunks could damage the surface of the Green overtime.
Possibly	Possibly	Protecting the Tynning land either side of a small, but well-used, road is always going to be a challenge. These proposals seem a sensible suggestion to mitigate the effects of erosion, without over-engineering a solution. In order for it to be successful we think the passing places will need to be carefully planned out so that it is made easy for cars to use the single track road. Thought has clearly gone into this already. Also, by using dead wood, if this turns out to not work in the way expected it won't be too difficult to move it and try something else.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

5. Project 3 - Creating a NW Corner Coppice

5.1. Freshford Residents

Response	Comments on Project 3 - North West Corner Coppice
Definitely	This a good proposal to utilise and bring to life this otherwise 'wasted space'
Definitely	the more trees the better and we have to get away from managing things to our own aesthetic neatness rather than benefitting wildlife. This is a prime area for this idea
Definitely	Why only ten trees? I think it should be more and cover a bigger area.
Definitely	This copse will provide valuable wildlife habitat, flora and berries for bees and birds and multiple educational opportunities for the school children. Because it is tucked into the edge and corner f the Tynning it won't detract from the open aspect of the Tynning field.
Definitely	This corner of The Tynning is unused and forgotten; therefore, planting a coppice will enhance the environment for humans, mammals, birds and insects alike
Definitely	Strikes me as being a good use of land especially as it is under-used today.
Definitely	Good selection of native shrubby plants
Definitely	There is already a walnut tree on the Tynning - do you want 2?
Definitely	Provided that the village is left as it is and not planted
Definitely	A wonderful opportunity to increase the number of trees in an areas which is rather a dead area at present. The trees specified with be very attractive and insect friendly with flowering and then berries
Definitely	Blackthorn left uncut would be good for wildlife and early blossom.
Definitely	Again nothing more to add, I'm all for more trees, especially to take the place of others when needed.
Definitely	There could be a problem in the wood being too dense. It would need to thinned when the trees grow bigger.
Definitely	good to see the variety of smaller native trees they appear to be less prone to disease
Definitely	Very good idea to have a coppice - perhaps area could be enlarged as so good for wildlife. Although the varieties suggested are lovely, I'm not sure that these are typically coppice trees - "traditionally coppiced [species] include ash, maple, oak, chestnut, elm, hazelnut, and elderberry". Coppicing could provided firewood, beanpoles, pea twigs, wooden posts for sale through the Galleries?
Definitely	The fruits of spindle are poisonous so probably best avoided. Walnut trees are beautiful but strictly not native; other trees may provide better wildlife benefits
Definitely	This proposal is to be welcomed-it would provide enhancement to what is,at present,a relatively untidy area.
Definitely	I think it would be nice for more to be made of this area and hope that what is proposed might encourage children to play and explore the wooded area.
Definitely	This would be very good, especially if the trees are not too close together and are spaced a bit randomly to look natural

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Response	Comments on Project 3 - North West Corner Coppice
Possibly	This is the area for extensive wild grass land. It is also the area for an orchard, if we believe we need one.
Neutral	Please don't block the lovely view from the cemetery through the trees across the Tynning. Anyone who has trees on their property would probably feel that they do need maintenance.
Neutral	It will be good to create something in an area of the tynning which has less use. Not sure about too many hawthorn trees especially if you are encouraging children to play in this are
Neutral	Yes provided that the planted trees are small.
Neutral	The area already lacks light in summer. Tiny wild snowdrops grow there in profusion in winter & the field edge of the area has a few cowslips in summer. Perhaps 10 trees would occlude the light even more?
Neutral	Not convinced this is necessary or worthwhile
Definitely Not	Create larger woodland. The proposed layout will seem controlled and un-natural
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views light and low maintenance.
Definitely Not	Priority should be placed towards the expected future policy and strategy for the village cemetery before this suggestion is considered. It is short-sighted to develop areas closeby to the cemetery without first clarifying future cemetery requirements, and communicating that to the parish.
Definitely Not	Request the future strategy of the cemetery is first considered before creating permanent structures around the perimeter as there is a question about expansion requirements (or planned closure) of the cemetery. This I believe should be addressed firstly.

5.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Response	Comments on Project 3 - North West Corner Coppice
Definitely	If it is intended to collect the walnuts, any walnut tree needs to be isolated from other trees as it is the squirrels favourite food
Definitely	We fully support using felled ash in this way - climbing opportunities for children on the logs are a great addition to the Tynning. We thought the point about the future of the Cemetery raised in the online forum was an important point, and are confident the Parish Council will take on board these comments for discussion.
Possibly	Feel we need to be careful that the view from this aspect is not lost.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

6. Project 4 - Oak Tree slightly above the 5-bar gate

6.1. Freshford Residents

Response	Comments on Project 4 - Oak Tree
Definitely	It will provide a welcome aspect to people entering the Tynning from the Freshford lane gate.
Definitely	It is a fabulous, native, majestic tree and will definitely enhance the look of the Tynning without imposing on its open aspect since it is at the bottom of the slope. This is a major way that we can affect the long term future of wildlife in our village. A lot of the other projects benefit in the short to medium term this slow-growing tree will deliver continuing future benefits and provides habitats for creatures that NO other tree provides
Definitely	In the UK, oak provides a habitat for more organisms, (and especially insects such as moths, beetles and spiders) than any other tree. Because of its large size and longevity, it plays a unique role in ecosystems and many species have adapted to live with it.
Definitely	I'd put it a little further up than the diagram suggests
Definitely	A lovely idea to create something special for villagers of the future. Since the tree will be planted below the brow of the hill it will not obstruct the open view across The Tynning and will provide a vast habitat for insects and wildlife.
Definitely	I recommend that the heritage trees to be planted should be semi-mature specimens. Otherwise the protective fencing will be the most visible feature for a number of years. I would be pleased to consider contributing to the extra cost.
Definitely	Wonderful idea.
Definitely	This will beautifully balance the trees now planted on Galleries. And oak trees support huge diversity of wildlife. It will also be a historic tree for a special village event of acknowledging our commitment to ecology - different to Boer Oak and Somerset departure tree - but still most important to our time. The three beautiful heritage trees planted on the Tynning are much loved and the oak will be too but future generations lucky enough to live in Freshford.
Definitely	I love Oak trees, so I'm all for this.
Definitely	I was quite concerned about open nature of area but listening to presentation feel this is well placed
Definitely	Oak trees are beautiful and provide the greatest wildlife benefits of any tree
Definitely	Planting a few specimen trees appears worthwhile
Definitely	You may wish to consider planting more than one to ensure the healthy survival of at least one oak (ie - not bark stripped by grey squirrels)
Definitely	I fully support this and think it will be a lovely addition.
Definitely	Would love to sponsor the oak tree - Sneyd family
Possibly	Yes but put it higher up the field.

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Response	Comments on Project 4 - Oak Tree
Possibly	Would this also help to control mud/ground moisture by the five bar gate? Brilliant if so.
Possibly	A qualified "yes", with the emphasis on the word "slightly"-Oak Trees in Maturity can prove of considerable girth (not that I'll be around long enough to see it!), but I would not like to see it impacting to any great extent on the overall "open" aspect of the Tyning.
Neutral	Oaks tend to prefer sandy soil to lime
Neutral	Could a row (avenue) of trees considered along the full length of the lane behind the hedge in lieu of a single tree that will take many tens of years to make an impact?
Neutral	Think the oak should be half way up the hill
Possibly Not	My only concern that the view up the valley from the Boer War oak would be impeded.
Definitely Not	Oak trees are great but definitely not there. The Tyning offers an open space with wonderful views of the surrounding trees, hills and sky. A big tree slap bang in the middle would detract greatly from the openness. Maybe up in the southeast corner?
Definitely Not	It will distract from the openness of The Tyning
Definitely Not	The Tyning space should remain open without tress. The tress could be planted elsewhere.
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tyning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and low maintenance.
Definitely Not	Looks artificial
Definitely Not	It seems artificial to place it there. It is unclear what the intention/ rationale for planting it there is?
Definitely Not	Prefer open feel to Tynings

6.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Response	Comments on Project 4 - Oak Tree
Definitely	Add an owls nest once it's mature?
Possibly	We like the idea of having large trees as part of our community. We feel any objections to this may be an example of 'shifting baseline syndrome' where some in the community have got used to the current view of the Tyning and feel this shouldn't change. Aside from the wildlife benefits, trees are a lovely focal point and are where people will congregate for shade or shelter. This will hopefully become the normalised view for future generations, who may decide to add to it.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

7. Project 5 - A Walnut tree in the NW Corner Coppice

7.1. Freshford Residents

Responses	Comments on Project 5 - Walnut Tree
Definitely	Walnut is a good choice as a heritage species.
Definitely	Lovely tree and provides extra substance to that wilder area.
Definitely	Given that over the years walnut roots spread this should be taken into account when siting the tree at a reasonable distance from Freshford lane.
Definitely	Since I moved to Freshford more than 30 years ago I have seen walnut trees disappear and not be replaced. I believe the path leading down from Sharpstone (near Abbotsleigh) was called Walnut Grove and we have a Walnut Cottage on Rosemary Lane. In the fullness of time, animals and humans alike would benefit from the harvest of walnuts which do well in this region. Last autumn I gathered a big bag of walnuts from nearby Tellisford.
Definitely	Is there enough light for it there? Just wondering as they seem to do better in sunny spots.
Definitely	Food for people, birds and insects.
Definitely	I recommend that the heritage trees to be planted should be semi-mature specimens. Otherwise the protective fencing will be the most visible feature for a number of years. I would be pleased to consider contributing to the extra cost.
Definitely	Fantastic tree - and a lovely thought that squirrels permitting, future generations will gather walnuts from under the tree!
Definitely	again more food for the fauna is excellent.
Definitely	Planting a few specimen trees appears worthwhile
Definitely	Lovely tree, relatively fast growing and walnuts to be enjoyed by locals! Excellent roosting for bats.
Possibly	Provided it's eventual size doesn't eclipse the neighbouring trees adjacent.
Neutral	May be nice but not essential
Neutral	Not sure as they grow so fast
Neutral	No real comment except that it should be in the NW corner and does not distract from the openness of the Tynning.
Neutral	There is already one Walnut in the area. How about a Wych Elm instead?
Neutral	In principle, yes, but i'm unsure if it would take light from the small to med. native trees.
Neutral	Dropped walnuts and shells might be hazard for tripping/slipping, & need clearing annually
Possibly Not	Walnut trees are beautiful but strictly not native; other trees may provide better wildlife benefits
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and low maintenance.
Definitely Not	I think it would be better for wildlife to clear the pond and to maintain and enhance the ancient field hedge in that area

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Responses	Comments on Project 5 - Walnut Tree
Definitely Not	Cemetery priorities come first.
Definitely Not	Recommend the cemetery future plan is first of all agreed before this area is planted.

7.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Responses	Comments on Project 5 - Walnut Tree
Definitely	As there is an historical connection with Walnut trees, it would be good to have 3
Neutral	See note on isolating walnuts

Tynning Questionnaire Results

8. Project 6 - Small Leaf Lime Tree in the SW Corner

8.1. Freshford Residents

Responses	Comments on Project 6 - Small Lime Tree
Definitely	A good idea to give variety for wildlife and harmonious aspect
Definitely	another lovely native tree and helps provide a stepping stone from the woods onto the Tynning.
Definitely	Small leaf lime is another of the diversity-rich trees of particular benefit to such as bees.
Definitely	This area of the Tynning will be enhanced by the planting of a small leaf lime
Definitely	I recommend that the heritage trees to be planted should be semi-mature specimens. Otherwise the protective fencing will be the most visible feature for a number of years. I would be pleased to consider contributing to the extra cost.
Definitely	Lime trees are attractive to wildlife and their blossom smells beautiful
Definitely	The addition of a small lime tree would be a welcome feature.
Definitely	Excellent for moths and bees
Definitely	I've always wondered why there aren't more trees on The Tynning.
Definitely	Is this to replace the huge but dying Horse Chestnut tree by the path going down? This tree is very old (and crops up in many old photos) and has lost some limbs. It will most probably need to be taken down before too long. Since the limbs have fallen it is possible to get a glimpse of the wonderful view beyond and makes one wonder if it would be possible to widen the gap a bit to show more of the view and to show the Tynning road as the 'hog's back' it really is. It is lovely to see it from the cemetery entrance.
Possibly	Yes, especially if we don't have bollard trees there.
Possibly	Agreed provided it is the South west corner. This area could also be used for Memorial trees.
Possibly	I suggest a Tilia tomentosa (silver leaved lime) They are visually stunning when grown, particularly against a backdrop of other trees.
Possibly	this might be better sited away from the road? sticky pollen/sap would favour rowan or hawthorn
Neutral	Already plenty of trees in that area
Neutral	Is there room for such a tree?
Possibly Not	Small leaf limes are not common in the local area and seems an odd choice. Two specimen trees seems sufficient
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and low maintenance.

8.2. Non-Freshford Residents

None.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

9. Project 7 - A Community Orchard

9.1. Freshford Residents

Responses	Comments on Project 7 - Community Orchard
Definitely	This will be a fantastic village resource thus benefitting humans and wildlife directly. It ties in nicely with the apple day that we already have and is so well attended.
Definitely	It's too small. There's enough land to create something much more meaningful. I don't see why this and the other projects are so limited in scope. There is such an opportunity to rewild the Tynning.
Definitely	Somerset and the adjoining counties are perfect for apple trees. Many of our near neighboring villages and towns are already enjoying community orchards. They will be filled with blossom in the spring and rich harvests in the late summer and autumn. As well as the benefits to wildlife, a community orchard is a great way to bring people together.
Definitely	This ticks so many boxes: providing food for villagers, increasing biodiversity, helping to reduce carbon, as well as providing community fruit picking/preserving activities
Definitely	Who will maintain it?
Definitely	With the proviso that that Parish Council felt able to undertake its management post year 1
Definitely	There is already a glut of apple trees locally fruit of which largely goes to waste. How can you be sure that this will not just create windfalls at the end of the season
Definitely	I suggest apple trees should include an Ashmead's Kernel (historical, disease resistant and delicious)
Definitely	Yes it should be available to anyone wanting to pick the fruit
Definitely	Very good for wildlife and very importantly a wonderful education resource for the school children. Very little long term maintenance and so good for the bees!
Definitely	This an excellent idea. I've seen similar community orchards in other areas and thought it would be a great idea for Freshford.
Definitely	Wonderful idea that will enrich our local environment
Definitely	This would be fantastic.
Definitely	This is a lovely idea but bear in mind wasps will be attracted to fallen fruit and this path is used by the school children
Definitely	Be a great place for the school children to have lessons in the summer
Definitely	What about a Victoria plum? Could try a peach tree too.
Definitely	Could we have a greengage tree?! This is my favourite part of the whole proposal
Definitely	Perhaps general guidelines re. considerate ongoing harvesting of produce when ready would be helpful for community at large - rather than 'restricted access' to certain times - or maybe that is not the intention anyway. Would be nice to feel people could just 'enjoy' picking something to eat - without 'greed' - so enough for all!

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Responses	Comments on Project 7 - Community Orchard
Definitely	Love idea of old local Apple trees
Definitely	I feel strongly that as many trees as is practicable in the long term should be planted
Definitely	Lovely idea- have seen this carried out to great effect in Cahors (France)
Definitely	Very much support the proposal to manage the orchard organically.
Definitely	I do love this idea. My only concern is for the ongoing maintenance of the trees and whose responsibility it becomes. I think it would be good to have a clear schedule of maintenance for the orchard shared between interested parties. I do also feel that as this area was originally designated for school use when the Tynning was purchased that it would be nice to be able to transfer the school area to the area by the Boer oak as per previous discussions on the matter. I think the school would be very keen to be involved in the planting and orchard as a whole but I do think it is important to be managed.
Definitely	Lovely idea - would need to think about policy of picking any fruit
Possibly	These will eventually need some maintenance and agree that sponsorship is a good idea - harvesting might need some management. Will these trees flourish in the damp ground at this level?
Possibly	I think the trees should be arranged in more of a regular pattern (double row) than informal zigzag. The benefit to wildlife will be the same but they may look more deliberate in design intent and less plonked!
Possibly	Nice idea - provided ongoing maintenance and fruit picking can be assured. Wasps attracted to wind-falled fruit (esp plums) can be a nuisance.
Neutral	Has anyone thought through the extra labour/expense that would be incurred in perpetuity for mowing round trees, for pruning, for gathering and disposing of fallen and rotten fruit? Is there any evidence of demand for the fruit, as opposed to the romantic idea of 'having an orchard'? Might the school be concerned about wasps nesting in the plum trees?
Neutral	Is this on land reserved by the Parish Council for use by the school? If it is, I would like to see another parcel of land allocated for school use, perhaps the flat area at the top of The Tynning. There is a critical lack of outside space at the school, somewhat ironic given the large open space available immediately next to it!
Neutral	Perhaps too many for that area
Neutral	Not sure whether, with the stream and the pond, the area would be a bit crowded. I'm not against an orchard per se.
Neutral	Is a preferable to plant this orchard on the North East corner of the Tynning next to the Boer Oak and High Street.
Neutral	Orchards require significant management on an annual basis.
Neutral	The Tynning has been a tynning (a field for temporarily restraining animals) for hundreds of years. The relatively open chalk hillside lent itself to this use and the "natural" progression of this when untended (as on parts of Salisbury Plain or Porton Down) is isolated small trees in scrubland. I think an orchard is a step too far from the natural state of the land.
Possibly Not	Perhaps there is danger of making that part of the Tynning congested, given the other proposed initiatives.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Responses	Comments on Project 7 - Community Orchard
Definitely Not	It destroys the fundamental open and unimpeded integrity of the Tynning. It is in the wrong place - if it is the wish of the residents for a community orchard to be planted on The Tynning then it would be far better sited on the flat ground above the school where it would be easier to maintain and manage.
Definitely Not	They are not appropriate. A line of trees is not an orchard. It corrupts the concept of an open Tynning, Openness is very desirable and in keeping with the fields around Freshford. Fruit trees are a pain to maintain. There are plenty of Apple trees in Freshford.
Definitely Not	From considerable experience Iwe know that fruit trees require considerable costly management
Definitely Not	Fruit trees are needed but are best in gardens where they can be cared for
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and is low maintenance.
Definitely Not	This should not become the future responsibility of the PC, unless funding is provided to the PC for through-life maintenance.
None	Seems like a waste of money. Those with too much time on their hands will benefit at the expense of those who need to work for a living.
None	An excellent idea - but could they be planted in a slightly more random, natural-looking way?

9.2. Non-Freshford Residents

None.

Tyning Questionnaire Results

10. Project 8 – Wildlife Pond

10.1. Freshford Residents

Comments on Project 8 - Wildlife Pond
A pond would be massively beneficial for both wildlife and humans
Consider this to be a long term project. Can the pond be fed from the culvert when 'daylighted'? This would keep the water fresh and aerated.
This is a brilliant idea and will bring so much life within hours of it being dug. Over 10% of life on earth is dependent on freshwater habitat but we have destroyed over 90% of our freshwater habitat since the industrial revolution, we need to start redressing this balance. We should have as large a pond as possible. I don't see that the children falling in comment is a particular risk, it is far more risky at the sites of the large, often fast flowing rivers running through our village. On the contrary I think that its existence and proximity to the school will benefit children and provide valuable extra learning.
A pond would be good provided it can be left natural and not prettified and provided any required safety precautions remain unobtrusive.
A bad idea. Why is very possible scheme being dumped on the Tyning?
I do not agree that a pond should be installed. It would provide a magnet for children and dogs - which would not be conducive to enabling this space to be enjoyed by all
Another essential addition to the Tyning as a whole.
Dont let 'Elf'n Syfty know!
I understand that daylighting the culverted stream is a big project that will require diligent planning but I think a pond would be an easy-to achieve project with perhaps the greatest benefit to wildlife and a huge teaching asset to the school and would like to see this project go ahead as soon as possible.
I think the pond is a lovely idea as is rechanneling the culvert.
The area by the village shop would make an excellent location.
We think both daylighting the culvert and the pond are a brilliant idea
No. Apart from Health and Safety, they can be messy. A proposal for a large pond in the field below the Galleries shop, (a few years ago) was rejected by the Council for numerous reasons. Freshford already has a large pond in the field along Abbey Lane. It provides for a huge abundance of wildlife. This includes hundreds of frogs/toads that really don't need to live alongside a road.
Ponds provide another type of habitat and therefore will increase biodiversity exponentially on The Tyning. Maintenance is something that will need detailed consideration.
What about health and safety so close to a school entrance?
As implied, this proposal requires a full feasibility study.
A fantastic, wildlife rich asset to the Tyning.
There needs to be fencing or some other means of protection to prevent small children entering the pond
Individual responsibility would be needed for this. A pond warden?!
The pond is the best idea in the proposal. However it will attract toads which will need safeguarding from traffic as they migrate. Each year in Feb/March I collect toads trapped in gutters along Freshford Lane.

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Comments on Project 8 - Wildlife Pond
It should be of benefit to wildlife
<p>* Is this on land reserved by the Parish Council for use by the school? If so, I would like to see another parcel of land allocated for school use, perhaps the flat area at the top of The Tyning.</p> <p>* How to minimise mosquitoes and other biting insects associated with ponds? Both for the School and near neighbours on Freshford Lane.</p> <p>* Although the pond is planned to be shallow, this will not, by itself, eliminate risk of drowning. Install a life-saver (ring)?</p> <p>* As part of these plans I urge the PC to consider making the cut-through from Freshford Lane into a permanent entrance to The Tyning. This unofficial entrance serves anyone who lives to the north of Freshford Lane and will become more important should this project go ahead.</p>
Happy with the idea in principle
Open water is a H&S issue for all small children using The Tyning not just the school children.
<p>Just wondering about safety of frogs that may live there as its so close to the road and the path that is used by school children. When frogs first emerge, there can be thousands of tiny frogs everywhere and they will be easily be walked on and killed by cars. We are wondering about considering the area marked 13 as a site for a pond as there is a wall there and it won't be disturbed by walkers & children.</p> <p>For drainage, there could be some kind of underground drainage system at the bottom of the hill that links to the stream (10)</p>
<p>Whilst i understand the benefit to wildlife of creating the pond area i do have reservations about the site. I am in favour of day lighting the culvert but need more information on how our waterways are coping with the ever increasing amounts of rainfall and how these projects would enhance the flow of excess water away from properties as the culvert could become blocked or reduced with build up of silt and debris if exposed</p>
Ponds are great! As are streams. We have too few here and I would support opening up the culvert over planting an orchard.
<p>I am unsure about this proposal. The wildlife benefit is clear but as a feature it doesn't seem to sit so well with the character of the rest of the Tyning. It has the feel of being shoe-horned in a bit!</p> <p>Practically, how do you stop the lower corner flooding completely during winter months? There is an existing gap in the hedge in the corner here next to the school hedge which is currently well used for access. This access point should stay and the footpath running up alongside the school hedge should also remain as one of the mown paths (it isn't shown as such on the plan).</p> <p>There may need to be a raised timber board walk from the road access to bridge what would become a very wet/muddy area around the pond.</p> <p>This feature may cut off this corner of the Tyning for the use and enjoyment of everyone and become more of a facility just for the school maybe? - especially if it ends up needing to be fenced around for safety. I don't object to this but some might!</p>
I'm in favour of this idea. Ponds became foci of wildlife and a pond fairly near the school would have the additional benefit of being a useful teaching aid.
Good idea (child safety permitting). Shouldn't block access to Tyning from the road in that corner.
This is a significant project and one that needs professional civil engineering advice. The project will be expensive to install and incur unknown maintenance costs. There are also health and safety issues and other risks which need to be addressed.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on Project 8 - Wildlife Pond
The area around the proposed pond is currently very muddy. Careful management of the area around the pond will be needed to prevent it becoming very muddy, slippery and unsightly in future.
Good idea
We think that this is an excellent idea
Given the past and on-going issues with the spring water passing through this area from Pipehouse/park Corner and then further down through the properties in Church Hill and down to the River, think that a pond here would act as a holding area when we get excessive rain. With the wetland trees planned as well, it is a very good ecological answer.
Issues on child safety, which are very important, will, I am sure, be fully addressed by the school
I think this an excellent idea - anything to encourage more frogs, toads and newts etc into the area is an excellent idea, as well as other wildlife this supports, such as herons.
Good idea but we need to be clear it is designed in such a way that it won't be stagnant, also obviously a useful for nature-focused lessons, a thorough assessment against risk to children is needed.
Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and is low maintenance.
I agree with the idea of having a pond for wildlife and as an asset for children to learn, however I am concerned about the proximity to the school, being close to school gates and the route into school. There is potential danger to very young children under school age here.
Support this idea and believe its addition will enrich the community
A pond is an excellent idea - all too few of them exist now. They are also one of the most easily viewed ecosystems for children. To maximise educational opportunities for the school, without risk of damage to the banks, should a part of the bank be boarded, so children can get close without treading on vegetation? Given ponds can get quite rapidly choked, some kind of yearly maintenance will be required. Can the pond be fed from the culvert, to keep it filled even during drought conditions?
A good idea, I hope the included plants include reeds as they are good breeding grounds for insects, especially dragonflies. I would also suggest having shallow edges so that small fauna can bathe easily.
great for children's learning, ponds are invaluable to wildlife but they do need regular upkeep
Installation of pond on Tynning considered one feature too many in a limited space where mass plantings of trees and flowers proposed as well as new pathways. The village already has 2 rivers as water features and a flood plain which may be more suited for pond location. A pond on the Tynning could mean extra dog/child control needed.
A shallow pond is all that would be needed to keep wildlife (and parents) happy
Would be lovely.
The stream provides a large volume of water in winter and the field at the proposed would flood easily. It would be a good wildlife resource though. Mature willows are large.
Great idea
Maybe if edged with large 'stones' this would prevent accidental 'falling into' incidents
Really like this idea
Great idea, ideally in combination with "daylighting" the stream but also useful on its own

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on Project 8 - Wildlife Pond
This is a terrible idea. Diverting a stream under a highway twice is going to be expensive and cause lots of maintenance problems down the road. There are lots of ponds around Freshford already, including Dunkirk Mill pond, pond house farm, hacket farm, Freshford Mill etc. why do we need yet another artificial pond in a location that requires major engineering work to achieve? If yet another pond is required (which is questionable) find a location that it can be made simply.
It is not considered to be the appropriate position/location for a pond. Children and water could cause risk. Responsibility for managing this risk would need to be clear. Unless the pond has a membrane, this water could leach under the road, cause erosion and potentially flooding to housing adjacent to Freshford lane. The diverging of the stream is both costly and will cause unpredictable consequences in terms of water management further down the water-course. The plan shows the water being diverted in to the pond but there is no clarity on how water then flows through and back in to the culvert. From the plan This is common land and as such should not be structurally/visually changed.
Excellent idea. Eco merchants do a clay pond liner - possibly of interest? https://www.ecomerchant.co.uk/in-ground/landscaping/clay-liners.html
I assume the school would take out insurance in case of accidents, risk, and would own the liability for this? I am not sure also about how seasonal flooding of the pond would be managed, or in times of drought? It is also a hot spot in summer. Who will maintain it and keep it habitable as ponds do not manage themselves.
My reservation stems from a tragedy which occurred in Sharpstone some considerable time ago; long term residents will recall a child being drowned falling into a swimming pool in a momentary lapse of supervision- any depth of water can prove a hazard, and as such, I feel this proposal requires adequate safety provision, along with further discussion.
Good to leave a bare earth sloping section for rare bees and have a marsh garden as cover for frogs and toads.
A pond in the village would be an enormous biodiversity asset. The sides could be shallow and gently sloping to keep children safe. Construction and design could be carried out in partnership with the school thereby maximizing water hazard education opportunities. We have a strong river that runs through the village, a pond will not offer anything like the risk that our river does on a daily basis.
Although I love the idea of introducing water to the Tynning I have concerns over the proximity to the school gate. I also have concerns over the pond becoming an area where parents of young children have to tell them not to go to without supervision. Part of the joy of the Tynning is that children can run around on the tynning and be safe as long as they stay away from the road. I think the danger of introducing a pond could mean that this is no longer the case.
An excellent idea.

10.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Comments on Project 8 - Wildlife Pond
Need to make it safe for young children
A good site on pond-stocking https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/gardening-for-wildlife/water-for-wildlife/stocking-a-pond/

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Comments on Project 8 - Wildlife Pond

A lovely thought but there is no way I would agree to a pond on the Green purely from the safety aspect. Children can drown in just two inches of water if they fall face down. Children from the village as well as those from the school use the Green to run and play and just one trip when adults` backs are turned could end in tragedy and that is something we would all have to live with should a proposed pond go ahead.

We love this idea!

Tynning Questionnaire Results

11. Project 9 - Wetland Tolerant Trees

11.1. Freshford Residents

Responses	Comments on Project 9 - Wetland Tolerant Trees
Definitely	ideal solution to the boginess in that area
Definitely	Given the past and on-going issues with the spring water passing through this area from Pipehouse/park Corner and then further down through the properties in Church Hill and down to the River, think that a pond here would act as a holding area when we get excessive rain. With the wetland trees planned as well, it is a very good ecological answer. Issues on child safety, which are very important, will, I am sure, be fully addressed by the school
Definitely	any room for silver birch?
Definitely	planting of willow varieties could be used for natural 'weaving' projects ...
Definitely	Good idea- the area in question has always proved difficult in terms of drainage.
Possibly	Suggest small trees of one variety to look best. Inevitably the willow will be neglected at some point and grow too big.
Neutral	Again, my concerns are mostly about crowding and spacing. I'm not very good at visualising from plans..
Neutral	I love willow trees but my concerns over the pond area still stand. Having said this the area in question is very wet so I would support the planting of trees regardless of the long installation.
Possibly Not	Either an orchard or a wetland area with wetland tolerant trees. I prefer the latter.
Definitely Not	See answer for the pond, sorry!
Definitely Not	This project is I assume part of the stream and pond project. See comments above for Project 8
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and is low maintenance.
Definitely Not	The ruining is not a wetland. Don't artificially change the habitat into something unnatural
None	In theory yes, but please refer to previous answer.

11.2. Non-Freshford Residents

None

Tynning Questionnaire Results

12. Project 10 – Stream (Daylighting the Culvert)

12.1. Freshford Residents

Comments on Project 10 - Stream Daylighting the Culvert
GREAT IDEA!!!
I think this is likely to be expensive and disruptive and therefore I would give it a low priority. The impact on flooding should be investigated as the culvert has created problems in the recent past. The benefit to wildlife should be established.
If we open up the culvert this could help prevent the types of flooding that we have seen recently and has impacted negatively on certain houses in our village
Complicated - mowing, the need for bridges. Please no prettification; this is not a suburban park.
I see this as a complete non starter. Speak to the Highways and Drainage Teams at B&NES. It would be hugely costly.
Very careful analyses should be conducted to understand what the impact might be further 'downstream' if the watercourse were to be re-routed.
Great idea
Streams that are culverted underground become dead - water plants, insects, amphibians and fish all need light. The restoration of the stream would be a very important and exiting project for the community and for the natural environment.
Good idea
It would be lovely to see it running freely as it once did, and a benefit to the ecology of the area.
Already commented that daylighting the culvert would be visually good and would also help with potential flooding problems due to easier access to resolve blockages
We already enjoy seeing the stream flowing by the footpath to the Galleries. Seeing it in the Tynning would be nice. However the construction would be considerable
A lovely idea. The culvert is problematic and has caused flooding in the past. It is managed by B&NES so would the Council be willing to invest money to redirect it and 'de-culvertise' it?
Ok, but items falling into stream (eg footballs) and risking culvert blockages downstream are a hazard.
As with the pond, an interesting idea but requires a full feasibility study.
An open stream along the bottom of the Tynning would assist drainage and be a fantastic aesthetic and wildlife asset.
sounds great
I think it would be great.
It would be good to open this up
Good idea
Like it, especially if it reduces the mosquito risk in the pond. My concerns are around long-term maintenance of the stream to mitigate any new flooding risks, is the PC able to add this to their remit?
I don't mind, but it's of less importance than the tree planting and if it was expensive, I'd be minded to spend money elsewhere.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on Project 10 - Stream Daylighting the Culvert
Clearly care needs to be taken regarding excessive water gathering at the bottom of the hill. Occasionally, the culvert has become blocked in the past, which has led to local flooding. With increased rainfall and a longer open culvert, the chances of it becoming blocked would probably increase, as would the potential for flooding. Maintenance would be key to prevent this. However, in principle, we would not object to the culvert being opened.
I imagine this will be costly! The amount of water that flows down the culvert after a storm is vast and redirecting the water could impact on the water escaping so potential flooding could happen on The Tynning and also into the school.
See previous answer
As a child I loved streams. This past year it has been lovely to watch the children enjoying and taking ownership of this open space at the heart of our village and I hope this will continue once all the trials of lockdown are past. A stream and a pond would add to the interest and variety of that space.
Before a more detailed study is done it's difficult to say, but I have reservations about this idea from a cost, engineering and ongoing maintenance point of view. I think people living downstream of the opened section may be nervous about the risks of blockages caused by vegetation and silt.
With careful management this could be an attractive feature.
It'd be very nice, provided that full consideration is made of the effect of any changes to the volume of water and debris in the culvert/stream to those properties downstream. The volume of water already exceeds the peak capacity of the culvert at times of high rainfall.
See comments above for projects 8 and 9. Best to keep the managed culvert in Freshford Lane rather than diverting it. We have other wet areas in Freshford where planting could be carried out.
This could be a very costly project and shouldn't distract from pushing forward with the other proposed changes.
May require extensive and expensive work.
It might prevent the bogginess if directed in one direction
This is a very excellent idea
Would be most attractive and ecologically beneficial
Good if the stream can be opened up, following its natural route. Increased risk of flooding the road or properties needs to be considered.
Please leave it unchanged. We see no benefit from the proposal. This will have to be maintained at cost to the taxpayers.
A stream sounds great, but please refer to my answer about the pond. If it is thought that there was a stream in this location previously, why was it removed (redirected)?
We support the idea and further investigation into the possibility.
As with the pond, a stream will greatly increase biodiversity. Therefore a very good proposal
A lovely Idea if possible.
I like the idea but again I would think maintenance would be required.
Not sure why a stream is "extremely helpful". If stream next to road rather than in Tynning safety issues arise. It is felt that money could be spent better on other projects.
Would be lovely.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on Project 10 - Stream Daylighting the Culvert
I think the perfect stream would be lovely, but it was culverted a long time ago (its not on the 18th century Methuen estate map) presumably because it caused a nuisance. The project does need more research.
This would be lovely
Excellent idea!
Don't mess with the drainage system. If we do we will be responsible for maintenance for every more. Who is going to foot the bill if the school or old post office floods as a result. Leave well alone
See previous answer.
Excellent idea
I think this needs thorough investigation, as diverting water-courses may have an impact upon village houses further down in the direction towards Church Hill bottom.
I've long thought that the existing "open" part of the stream, given it's relative inaccessibility, has never been used to full advantage; the proposal is therefore to be welcomed.
Very much support opening the stream and creating a wetland habitat along with the pond.
We have an amazing ecological asset hidden underground- it will be challenging but the effects of reinstating the stream for wild life alone are incalculable.
My children love playing in the stream in the playing field behind the memorial hall so in principle I like the idea of the stream being instated. I love the idea of another dimension being added to the Tynning like this - water is such a peaceful element and believe this could be a wonderful addition.
An elderly resident (who died some time ago) told me that historically the stream used to continue down the north side of Freshford Lane as far as the crossroads. But to divert it along the bottom of the Tynning to the pond would seem to make good sense.

12.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Comments on Project 10 - Stream Daylighting the Culvert
Great idea to bring the stream back
Some little bridges?
It is a shame that at present the stream is underground. If practical this would be an excellent opportunity to open it up and make it part of the village project.
Very good idea to refresh pond, but might need some form of sluicing and/or redirection to prevent flooding?
There may be some safeguarding concerns being so close to the school.
This is a good idea
We love this idea too! We hope it is possible.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

13. Project 13 - New Native Hedge

13.1. Freshford Residents

Responses	Comments on Project 13 - New Hedge on the Border with the High St.
Definitely	Good idea.
Definitely	Much more attractive than current shabby metal fence
Definitely	The more hedges the better for flowers and fruits, food, habitat and nesting for wildlife , as well as shelter. What about hedges either side of the mown footpath from the War Memorial to Freshford Lane - perhaps plant all the area between that hedge and the cemety with coppice. The hedge would reduce the disturbance to wildlife in the coppice. Lockdown has highlighted that wildlife benefits from less disturbance.
Definitely	Infill for the existing hedge is equaloy important
Definitely	Would also like to see this at bottom end as suggested in meeting
Definitely	Strongly agree with planting the hedge and removing any barbed wire.
Neutral	No strong views on this proposal either way!
Possibly Not	I like the openness provided by the current fence - a more attractive estate type fence, like the one round the fields by the pub would be ideal, but I can see that does not increase habitat! I think the hedges currently in place could do with more attention to help them thicken up.
Definitely Not	A nice idea but I should prefer a more open aspect; so possibly some attractive iron railings
Definitely Not	Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and is low maintenance.
Definitely Not	This will cause visibility issues in the future. I am not sure what the covenant holders would think about it either? How would the hedge be trimmed as its location would require a high arm on a vehicle to trim it from the roadside.?- a query for future through-life. But would need to be considered as a blind bend is nearby.

13.2. Non-Freshford Residents

None

Tynning Questionnaire Results

14. Views in General

14.1. Freshford Residents

Comments on The Tynning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
The whole scheme is excellent
I think this is a far-sighted, constructive and sensitive proposal and it has our strong support. Consideration could be given to establishing a 'petanque/boules terrain' possibly on the south side of Tynning Lane. The large 'NO PARKING' stone at the east end of Tynning Lane is in poor state of repair. It could be replaced with a suitable sign crediting Friends of Freshford for their efforts in support of this proposal and include a map defining the areas and plants/trees.
A well thought through project in a current desert area that starts to redress the balance of wildlife while also providing carbon storing habitat for our climate emergency, where we all need to do our bit. We need to go further and faster but this is an excellent start.
Members of Friends of Freshford are to be praised for this thought-provoking proposal - and thanks are due to the PC too for the well-planned questionnaire which allows plenty of opportunity for comment.
We should recognise that The Tynning is not just any old spare piece of ground. It is a jewel in Freshford's crown - a delightful space in the heart of the community, giving open vistas to the surrounding slopes and the sky, set around by lush greenery and used and appreciated by many residents. It is not a case of "Which is more important - the biosphere or views across the Tynning?" - there is plenty that can be done to enhance biodiversity on the Tynning and locally without detracting from the benefits the Tynning provides.
A great deal of work and expense would be involved in implementing these proposals. This is relatively easy to manage in the shorter term when you can see which budget the necessary funds might come from and which volunteers are enthusiastically committed. The challenge, though, will be to sustain financial and volunteer support over years, even decades, when the fun of launching something new has evaporated and the original movers and shakers have moved on. The PC will, I'm sure, be carefully considering the ongoing commitments it would be undertaking at a time when its resources are limited and money is already tight - and getting tighter.
Some of the commitments are being undertaken by Friends of Freshford. I feel residents might like clarification as to who Friends of Freshford are (the website page is many years old) and how they can ensure continuity of volunteer and financial support. If they fail to do so, these will be extra burdens to be taken up by the PC.
Perhaps it should be explained that the idyllic image of a wildflower meadow at the start of the proposal would not be achievable on the Tynning, even with the enormous quantities of 'wild' flowers proposed.

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Comments on The Tyning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
<p>The Tyning remains intact and its essential features are still identifiable from the Methuen Map of the early 1700s. I want to see its basic integrity as an open space preserved in accordance with its name 'Tyning' - " an open space enclosed by hedges and/or woodland." This is vital too, to the importance of its Conservation status. I see few of these measures being introduced for 'the better enjoyment of the village green." I would like the Tyning proposals deferred for consideration so that the PC can take a view once it has completed its assessment of all the potential changes/initiatives that might be implemented across the whole of the Parish. At the moment everything is being dumped on The Tyning without any thought being given as to the alternatives that might exist. I have already pointed out that at the back of the Glebe is unwanted land that could be used for conservation and planting. And I have further suggested that we should be actively exploring a tie in with Beeswax for a trees to be planted on a significant scale on land in their ownership which is not productive for sheep farming. Within two years or so farmers will be able to apply for significant government subsidies to reforest farm land.</p>
<p>I generally believe that the current view of the land as grass is very boring and not remotely useful for rewilding and biodiversity. Theres plenty of evidence to back this up. I do feel the proposal is lightweight though, I'd prefer something bolder.</p>
<p>maybe consider sculpting a series grass of terraces that could serve as an amphitheatre</p>
<p>I like the proposal in general but wonder whether after the intitial enthusiasm will continue to undertake the necessary maintenence</p>
<p>I have received so much encouraging and enthusiastic feedback as well as offers of help and even financial contributions towards this project that I believe it will be a huge boost to the community morale as well as a positive contribution towards stemming the devastation that our wildlife population has suffered due to loss of habitat, development and industrial farming methods. This is urgently needed as a springboard to further nature restoration.</p>
<p>My only concern at the moment is that once finished, The Tyning will attract lots of people from outside the village as a place to picnic. With little parking as there is we need to be mindful as to how this is managed. There is no parking management at drop-off and pick-up at the school and the road often becomes impassable for larger vehicles like the bus. Otherwise, the ideas are great.</p>
<p>As a newcomer to the area, it's wonderful to see how the community is coming together around The Tyning project, and the need for urgent action to help to restore the natural world. It's success will encourage activity in other areas of Freshford and beyond - well done to all!</p>
<p>Thank you, well done.</p>
<p>Keep it open and reasonably in keeping with the rest of Freshford, with its many hillside slopes. Always consider biodiversity with compatibility to the whole of Freshford, and not just try to create a bio enclave.</p>
<p>The Tyning is a wonderful village resource and Friends of Freshford's proposal will enhance it, creating habitats for wildlife as well as 'future proofing' its beauty for generations to come.</p>
<p>A rural idyll. Let's strive towards it and go back to the 20th or even 19th century!</p>
<p>The Tyning currently is a 'green desert'. I am strongly in favour of all elements of this proposal, none of which would impede the open view / aspect of the Tyning.</p>
<p>it all sounds fantastic - well done Tan!</p>
<p>Thank you for the work done so far in making The Tyning such a usable space by all age groups and another hub for the village.</p>

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on The Tynning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
I would like to see all grass mowing stopped. Mown grass paths will not be practicle in the lower areas where extensive footfall. Mud will prevail. I suggest the use of lime based gravel solid paths on well trod routes as at Prior Park.
It needs to be considered whether the changes to the Tynning are to improve its ecological nature. This is in my view essential. Making it a sort of park will compromise this aim.
Well done to all involved. Apart from fearing a swarm of mosquitoes at the new pond, I would like the PC and FOF to ensure any land currently allocated for use by the School is not given up with these plans. A solution would be to move the School's allocation to the flat area immediately behind the School.
Thank you for producing this proposal and for your hard work to date.
Overall, the proposals have been very well thought through, and clearly represent a great deal of work. We are blessed to have people in our community with the motivation and expertise to give their time to developing the natural environment for future generations. Thank you.
Much future maintenance and costs involved for this project. Who will manage these projects going forward? Will it impact on The Tynning if down the line this management fails or enthusiasm dwindles?
I think the plan is wonderful! Very well thought through! Thank you!
Thank you to all those who have spent a great deal of time researching this project and putting the proposal together. I wholeheartedly support the proposals and feel that we should be doing everything we can to support biodiversity in the village.
Are there any future plans for maintenance of the woodland area on the banks below the tynning and ecisting footpaths running down to the river as this area needs addressing and tress cut and new trees planted to stabilise the bank.perhaps this is not within the realms of FoF or parish council but is i feel of great importance to maintain.
See my previous remarks under "Stream". We are so lucky to have such a relatively new space open to all. Thank you Parish Council for providing it and thanks also Friends of Freshford for initiating a plan to increase its appeal. Now it's up to us to improve things like habitat without turning it into a carefully managed park. A real tightrope. Good Luck!
Overall really good ideas! These features will greatly add to the appearance and habitat benefits of the Tynning, for the enjoyment of everyone and for years to come.
This is an excellent initiative and both the PC and the FoF are to be thanked and commended for all their hard work and planning so far. Ensuring that the development strikes a careful balance between artifice bordering on municipal parkland and a natural organic development will require careful thought.
It'll be a great improvement. Thank you to all involved for their time and effort in preparing these plans and consuitation.
My view is to encourage planting but not on the Tynning which must retain its openess. Freshford has other sites where planting may be more appropriate.
An impressive amount of work has been put into this excellent proposal. Thank you to all those involved.
A huge amount of time and effort has gone into the plan, very impressive. I am slightly worried about the stream but am confident it will be carefully worked through.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on The Tynning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
<p>All trees should be protected by guards against traffic and animal damage in their early years. The repetition of specific trees in an area is known to enhance visual beauty and balance the landscape.</p> <p>It is sad that you feel two passing places are necessary on this small stretch of road.</p> <p>This is a wonderful effort by the Friends of Freshford to enhance our natural resources, encourage community participation and encourage wildlife.</p>
<p>1. The opportunity to clear out growth in the village pound which is a walled site between the proposed walnut tree and the cemetery boundary, and the road, could be used possibly as a compost site and definitely not subject to future planting of any kind.</p> <p>2. The scheme as a whole is extremely well thought out and planned. It meets the requirements of maintaining the openness of the green belt and ecological considerations. It is debatable however, that any further planting beyond that proposed could be considered as detrimental to the required openness .</p>
<p>I really like all these proposed changes. Over the last 5-10 years I have noticed a marked reduction in woodland, foliage and spaces for wildlife in the area, so I think the more that can be done to plant trees, wildflowers and support the local wildlife the better. I see so many other communities many changes to support their local ecology, and it's really inspiring to see plans like these being made for Freshford. In all the years I have lived here, The Tynning has always seemed to just be a rather wasted space, and I love how these plans offer to turn the area into something of more interest, as well as providing ecological improvements and things to foster community (e.g. community orchard). This could be a real source of local pride. I would love to see trees and wildflowers chosen to encourage bees, butterflies and other insects. It appears this has already been done which is excellent, so this has my full support. Encouraging all other kinds of wildlife - such as deer and hedgehogs - I think would also be a fantastic idea. I think these plans are fantastic, and suggest some excellent proposals for improving our green spaces at a time when it couldn't be more urgent to do.</p>
<p>Good if wildflowers and tree planting can be expanded, though i understand it is used for other purposes.</p>
<p>Please leave the Tynning unchanged. It provides wonderful views, light and is low maintenance.</p>
<p>I think this is a wonderful plan. Fantastic to see local action to improve the biodiversity and beauty of our village as well as supporting the environment. Looking forward to seeing it come to fruition.</p>
<p>I think the proposals are fantastic, and I am looking forward to seeing it grow.</p>
<p>I think that this is a fantastic project and fully support it.</p>
<p>I think these have been excellent proposals, it will really help the ecology of the local area.</p>
<p>There are wonderful, ambitious ideas here but the enthusiasm must be carried forward to enable the plans to deliver. All villagers will need to 'buy in' to it and give it the support required to get it off the ground.</p>
<p>I think this is a great proposal that would be a fantastic way of symbolising the communities commitment to act in accordance with our declaration of a Climate and Ecological emergencies and do are part in beginning to addressing them.</p>
<p>Sounds like a great idea! I only hope you can get approval quickly so can get on and order the trees - stocks seem low at nurseries right now!</p>

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on The Tynning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
<p>Great proposal. What a lot of thought and careful drafting has gone into these plans! Well done to all concerned.</p> <p>Read somewhere in the last few days that most successful way of establishing wildflowers is to lay cuttings with seedheads from local wildflower meadows on bare soils. (never very happy about the practice of stripping top soil off to sow wildflowers).</p>
<p>I am disturbed by the anonymous recurrent notices asking horse riders to refrain from using the Tynning. It is not illegal to ride a horse on a Village Green and various organisations such as RoSPA and some local authorities are actively developing new bridle paths to allow riders to keep off roads. Could we not confine the damage to turf by providing one or two signposted routes across the green? One of the advantages of having animal passage across land is that the pits caused by their hooves provides places for insects to breed, which is one of the aims of the Tynning Proposal. We are priveleged to live in a rural environment and must avoid creating a suburban park.</p>
<p>We are very supporting and would like to help out wherever possible</p>
<p>A community asset for mutual engagement & benefit. Seating options for community gathering/intergenerational conversations etc would be invaluable inclusion</p>
<p>I think it all sounds very positive but I wonder about any ongoing maintenance and how this will be managed. I also think that people will continue to cut onto the Tynning from the lane by the school (near the Postbox) so provision will need to be made for this.</p>
<p>I think this is a really positive initiative for the heart of the village</p>
<p>Want this area to look natural and not like parkland but feel this project will enhance this. Also do like open aspect and not a too crowded feel but again feel proposals will keep a good balance. Many thanks to all involved</p>
<p>It all looks GREAT! Thank you so much for all of your hard work, I'd like to add my general support for everything (and will obviously do my best to help, hands on, whenever possible)</p>
<p>Great project, carefully researched and well-thought through to be good for wildlife while preserving the Tynning's amenity value.</p>
<p>Planting a few trees if sensible but the more outlandish proposals should be reigned in. Diverting a steam is a very dumb idea and is completely unnecessary indulgence.</p>
<p>This is a very good project that has been proposed and will enhance the village enormously. Only concern is dog mess still being a problem especially as you are encouraging more people to use the Tynning as a recreational area. Perhaps we could have one of the Tynning street lamp powered by one of Brian Harper's anaerobic digesters? https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/jan/01/stools-to-fuels-street-lamp-runs-on-dog-poo-bio-energy-waste-</p>
<p>First and foremost,despite any critical observations /reservations expressed in the foregoing,I should like to place on record my thanks to all who have been concerned in this proposed project,for their thoughtful ,considered input,and their time and endeavour in bringing these proposals to this stage; they are to be applauded!</p> <p>One additional point,if I may- the "trajectory" from Sharpstone across Tynning Field proves very useful for pedestrians,in cutting off a corner when accessing the crossroads area,or,indeed,the post box.Please could consideration be given to installing a couple of steps-probably wooden sleeper type- just at the corner of the hedgerow close to the postbox,rather than having to clamber up,or down, that short,but steep,muddy bank?</p>
<p>Thank you to Friends of Freshford for a really well considered set of proposals - we would be delighted to support with planting etc.</p>

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Comments on The Tynning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
I'd like to take the opportunity presented by this questionnaire to support and thank everyone who is working on the project but I would make a plea that the overall effect of whatever changes are eventually wrought don't destroy the natural openness, and even unkemptness, of the Tynning. I know there are extraordinary times but it saddens me to see the the many meters of mats and flags, which I hope will be removed as soon as the circumstances allow.
We have this chance to come to the aid of our natural environment- we have lost trees, flowers, insects, reptiles and birds as a result of reducing our environment down to a level where biodiversity is just not supported, encouraged or tolerated. It may already be too late to get back some of what we've lost but we must try by planting a variety of trees, shrubs and bulbs and by reducing our interference and just allowing time for suppressed dormant plants to re-emerge.
I think the friends of Freshford should be congratulated on an excellent proposal.
I hope that the Tynning remains a field and is not turned into a suburban park.
Feels like a wonderful well thought out project
We fully support everything that is proposed and feel it will all be a vast improvement on what is currently no better than the field that was used for cattle grazing. Well done every one involved with getting the project off the ground.
Really excited to see this come to life
There seem to be two aims in this project; the first is to fulfil our commitment to the environment in increasing the biodiversity - with wildflowers, native trees, pond wildlife etc., and the second is to do it in such a way that the Tynning area is enhanced without being made too fussy and suburban. I think that both aims have been accomplished admirably. Very well done!

14.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Comments on The Tynning, other Possibilities or General Thoughts
Excellent proposal.
Fantastic project!
Congratulations on a a well thought out scheme to enhance this excellent village asset
Points 8 & 10 – no allowance seems to have been made for surplus water feeding from the stream and into the pond. As we all know, the current arrangement where the closed culvert near the cemetery in Freshford Lane, leads to water discharging onto the surface of Freshford Lane which then finds its way both down to the crossroad and in about equal measure into the school car park. The later seeps through the boundary wall into the playground and thence via the playground sump into the sewer running under the High Street ultimately gravitating into the River Avon – occasionally via the Huitson's kitchen. Provision of an engineered overflow system for this water course is essential. Point 14; potentially removes any further considerations of provision of temporary school bus/parent car drop off and pick up stretches along Freshford Lane thus perpetuating this age-old problem.
The Tynning can be enhanced in many ways especially in adding colour and interest. It is described as an open space and we should make sure that it is kept as such.
It's great that so much thought is being put into this beautiful centre of our wonderful village, I love all of the ideas and think they would enhance it.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

15. Children's Views

15.1. Freshford Residents

Children's Views
They love the idea of the pond, stream and orchard
They love wild flowers and butterflies etc and always migrate to the Tynning to 'run around'. They would love a petanque terrain to be established on the South side of Tynning Lane.
They love wildlife and nature and even at a young age appreciate nature. They would love to see the Tynning grow into something special.
My children have left home but were born and grew up here and still feel deeply connected to this landscape. Other friends and family members have asked whether there is a fund to contribute to tree planting because they have visited Freshford over the years and come to know and love it.
Widget agrees
They will love it
My young children are keen to invest in nature - and are even keener to have fun safe places in which to play. If the two can be achieved at the same time then great.
My two children support and have contributed to my responses.
Rose would like to see more oak trees so that the owls can live in them. She also suggests another pond at the top (it doesn't have to be big).
All children left this household quite a few years ago. So no additional comments.
The proposal seems great - what's not to like about it!
The kids love the idea of having a pond in particular, also having fruit trees and areas where there are logs to climb on.
They love the idea of the Tynning being a home for lots more animals, and it being a more interesting to explore, play, and find more types of plants and animals. As it's a bit "boring" at the moment.
Our children would love to play in a wilder environment on the Tynning.
Positive
I can't get any engagement but thanks for asking
They love it too!
They want the Tynning to be somewhere they can play and would like to see more mown areas, especially the flat bits
No Children (one Border Collie, who has a view on life!)
They are passionate about nature and love the idea of the wild un-mown meadow areas, the pond and the dead trees to climb on.
My children's first response to the proposal that they didn't want it to change as they love the wide open spaces which the Tynning provides and running up and down the hills with their friends. However, when we looked closer at the interesting parts of the proposal they seemed positive. They would enjoy exploring areas like the new wooded paths and area and also the fact that the Tynning will still have large spaces to run around they approved of. They also like the visibility that the Tynning provides.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

15.2. Non-Freshford Residents

Children's Views
They like it
They both see the presence of trees, hedges, dead wood etc as a normal environment. Adding these into the environment they are growing up in just seems an obvious thing to do for them.

Tyning Questionnaire Results

16. Emails Received

16.1. Freshford Residents

Emails Received

First of all thank you for organising the parish zoom meeting. It was interesting to be able to listen to the general discussions. I do hope that next time we can attend in person even if it is an outside meeting on the Tyning!

While I fully support the overall intentions of the Friends of Freshford to enhance the Tyning I and several others are concerned that we take care to continue to emphasise the very natural & rural nature of this special area. I fully support the planting of a natural hedge where the land adjoins the main road. In my experience hawthorn is quick growing & suitable for this.

I am very concerned however that we will spoil the open feeling of the Tyning by planting a row of trees along the roadside & perhaps removing the wooden posts. When I was on the P.C I know we tried various strategies to preserve the grass edge from car damage and the posts have certainly been the most effective answer even if one or two have had to be replaced from time to time. I feel there is a great danger of turning the area into a sort of park. Please plant trees but where they should grow naturally.

The orchard at the far end would obviously require maintenance- pruning etc but this may be possible. Trees in the graveyard do have roots that spread! The first thing would be to have an ongoing maintenance programme for removing all the unwanted saplings that self seed in the wrong place. I am sure you are aware of all of this.

I think the idea of Wild flowers should certainly be encouraged whenever possible but in my experience they do have a mind of their own as to where they choose to be! I believe it usually means that you have to first remove the rich topsoil. However I expect you are already aware of this too.

I hope my comments can be of some use to your ongoing discussions. I only felt impelled to write them down when I realised there was a good deal of concern being expressed from a number of other residents who may not as yet have contacted you.

I'd just like to add a couple of points to my questionnaire response.

The first is to reiterate that the proposal for the Tyning represents the views of some members of Friends of Freshford rather than the considered view of all members. Suppose the PC received a proposal from the residents of Sharpstone, say, to make Sharpstone Lane one-way. The PC might be minded to progress the suggestion thinking that residents knew best what was needed. The PC would then feel they had been sorely misled if they later discovered that the majority of Sharpstone residents had not even been consulted let alone approved the proposal. I feel the Tyning proposal is similar. This is not to say that it is without merit, simply that it does not come with the implied weight of local opinion behind it. The second is to say that the zoom Q&A session largely restated the content of the published proposal. The presentations dwelt on the ecological benefits of oak trees, hedges etc - but no-one was disputing these anyway. There was little discussion and no agreement as to the appropriateness of the elements of the proposal within the context of the Tyning itself. I don't feel the lack of discussion should be taken as assent.

Tynning Questionnaire Results

Emails Received

The school supports the basic aims expressed and hopes that The Tynning will remain a place where children and their families can enter freely in the knowledge that it is a relatively safe and open rural setting where successive generations can develop a healthy sense of belonging and appreciation of the village's common open land.

Of particular relevance to the school are:

- Point – 8: Wildlife Pond
- Point – 10: Stream and
- Point – 14: Existing Hedge – Freshford Lane.

Together with the wetland tree planting, the above will be elements that might be said to reduce or limit the freedom (and safety -see below) of movement and so the flexibility of use of the area of the Tynning that was set aside for the school some years back.

If it were possible for the school to have direct access to an alternative but similarly designated area of the Tynning this would help us to sustain our current provision for the children.

- Point 8 Wildlife Pond
- Background information: the Tynning Action Group, chaired by Claudia Towner, some years ago, had specialist speakers to provide professional advice about different proposals for the use of the Tynning immediately following its purchase by the Parish Council (a purchase that, from memory, the school put money up front for solicitors' fees, etc.). The representative from BANES council's principal point of caution was that the Parish Council would be wholly responsible for safety and any injuries that resulted from changes to the Tynning. He was making this point in general but specifically with reference to the proposal of creating a pond. He reiterated this point several times.
- Our concern is that a pond adds a new and higher level of risk to this environment and very close to the school. A feature that may cause as much worry for families as it does joy: the first 4 lines from the ROSPA website page on the subject says 'Garden ponds are great! They're nice to look at, good for wildlife... Unfortunately they're not so good for young children. In fact, garden ponds are involved in more than half of all toddler drownings.' <https://www.rospa.com/leisure-safety/water/advice/pond-garden-water>

2 thoughts:

- a) new & added risk close to the school gates but outside of the school's grounds/supervision
- b) children playing with less freedom in the Tynning in general at other times because adults are worried about the pond risk.

An old friend of the school has advised:

- Points 8 Wildlife Pond & 10 Stream – from our understanding no allowance seems to have been made for surplus water feeding from the stream and into the pond. As we know from experience, the current arrangement where the closed culvert near the cemetery in Freshford Lane, leads to water discharging onto the surface of Freshford Lane which then finds its way both down to the cross road and in about equal measure into the school car park. The later seeps through the boundary wall into the playground and thence via the playground sump into the sewer running under the High Street ultimately gravitating into the River Avon – occasionally via the Huitson's kitchen. Provision of an engineered overflow system for this watercourse is essential.

Point 14; potentially removes any further considerations of the provision of temporary school bus/parent car drop off and pick up stretches along Freshford Lane thus perpetuating the age-old traffic problems.

Tyning Questionnaire Results

Emails Received

We appreciate that the enthusiasts for the biodiversity scheme have done a lot of preparatory work on their proposals and thank them but we have many concerns which really cannot be dealt with in an online meeting. Therefore we feel this should all be left until covid allows a general meeting.

We have two main concerns:-

A) The pond and stream must be a concern to the houses on the lower part of the village because previously they have been affected by flooding when the stream has been blocked by footballs and debris under their houses.

B) The cost to the council when grass mowing around the trees etc becomes so complicated instead of a straightforward job.