

Title: **Proposed Comments to SCDC Biodiversity Strategy**

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Milton Country Park

We are surprised to find only one explicit reference to the country park in this document (two lines on page 87). We were lead to understand that SCDC had already agreed to pursue Local Nature Reserve status for the country park so we're surprised to see it is still being "considered".

Is the country park going to be included in the audit of all SCDC maintained land proposed in BAP target **BAP urb/6**?

Black Poplars

The strategy states in several places (e.g. pg 13, pg 21) that there has been no survey of black poplars and BAP target **BAP tw/8** calls for a database to be produced by August 2007. It is our understanding that a survey was undertaken in 2001 and identified approximately 300 specimens in the district. The results are lodged at Monks Wood. It may be that this survey removes the need for **BAP tw/8** or at least considerably reduces the work needed to produce the database.

Management of Roadside Verges

BAP target **BAP gr/1** calls for the development of an Environment Management Programme for roadside verges and implies that treating them as grassland is the way forward. We would question whether this is the best strategy in all cases. We have one roadside verge which we maintain (on the A10 bypass) which we are deliberately not cutting at all, so as to encourage species progression.

Churchyards and Cemeteries

As part of your work towards BAP target **BAP urb/2** you propose to produce a model management plan for PCCs. In our village the parish council not the PCC is responsible for management of the cemetery, so you should probably refer to "PCCs and PCs" or perhaps more generally as there may be other bodies involved too, "those managing churchyards and cemeteries".

Allotments

We note your comments in the "Relevance to South Cambridgeshire" column against BAP targets **BAP urb/4** and **BAP urb/5** where you say that "Allotments are being lost through change affecting many villages". This has not been our experience, in fact if anything the demand for allotments is rising and we are bring plots back into use at the moment.

Minor Typos

Page 8, para 2.3.1, line 2, "it's" should read "its"

Page 11, table 3, "Sumary" should read "Summary"

Page 25, BAP target **BAP urb/3**, "site" should read "sites"