

Appendix 5 – Potential for ‘biodiverse approach’ and equipment to be of use in tendering for future Town and Parish Council contracts

	Own or manage green spaces	Existing contract with SHDC	Currently undertake measures for biodiversity	Future aspirations	Appetite for longer grass ‘cut and collect’	General comments
Ivybridge TC	Y	Y	Most ITC sites have had their GM modified to enhance biodiversity over the last few years, albeit to a limited degree.	The new contract in 2022 will reflect an appetite to further increase the areas managed for wildlife, including converting frequently cut amenity grass to meadows with reduced cutting frequency. This to include parks and verges	Where access for machinery permits, cut and collect will be an efficient and ultimately beneficial maintenance process and the ability to cut and collect would score well in tendering.	<p>They note the need for consistency and reliability, with a well-trained team.</p> <p>Communication is noted as important, particularly where changes are being made to the cutting regime.</p> <p>The importance of litter checks is stressed, particularly road side and in longer grass.</p> <p>ITC note that flexibility is likely to be important in the future contract, noting that more cuts may be needed in warm/wet spells, whilst dry spells may reduce the need for cutting – flexibility and not just undertaking scheduled cuts being necessary moving forwards.</p>
Kingsbridge TC	Y	Y	Various sites have longer grass or are managed for wildflower, with Kingsbridge in Bloom	Commonly seeking additional areas where consistent with KIB aspirations	Unlikely	<p>KTC contract SHDC to cut verges, whilst using a local contractor for most of their other sites.</p> <p>KTC site the flexibility over scheduling as the appeal – being able to cut at short notice, or prior to events, etc</p> <p>KTC note they are happy both with the SHDC contract, and their local contractor and consider it works well at present</p>
Salcombe TC	Y	Y	None specifically identified in response – sites focussed on regular amenity cuts	Maintain existing approach	None	STC do not feel longer grass is appropriate in a town and beach setting, and would not wish the green spaces to look unkempt
Modbury PC	Y	N	Piloting leaving some areas uncut to monitor benefit to biodiversity	Are looking to develop these approaches further	Scale of sites are small and may not be suitable for cut and collect machinery	MPC have noted the need for flexibility – the ability to cut at short notice/on request which may not be a model that would work for SHDC.

						MPC are engaged and are keen to work together, even if on common aspirations as opposed to under contract
Wembury PC	Y	Y	Have several wildflower areas – maintained by village environment group SHDC contract relates to regularly cut amenity grass	Continue with wildflower, and potentially extend areas. Potentially leave larger patches of long grass around playing field	Potentially in future if left larger patches of long grass around playing field	Note that WPC actions to enhance biodiversity at the WPC owned Recreation Ground and verges in Wembury have been generally welcomed by local residents with lots of compliments about the improvements and changes
Kingswear PC	Y	Y	Already leave areas in cemetery and churchyard long for wildflowers, other areas regularly cut for recreation	Continue as existing – currently are retendering their contract	Unlikely cut and collect machinery would be able to cut around headstones	
Brixton PC	Y	N	BPC as part of its Environment Action Plan is looking to improve biodiversity on green spaces around the parish regardless of ownership, and have a plan to decrease the size of some of the areas mown regularly to improve biodiversity	Reduce areas mown regularly and enhance biodiversity on green spaces in the parish in a strategic fashion	Some potential, albeit SHDC do not have a contract with BPC so would depend on any future contract	
Loddiswell PC	Limited	N	LPC owned spaces support children's play	Unlikely as needs to support children's play, grass will remain as regularly cut amenity grass	Expect cut and collect as part of their existing contracts (but for short, not long grass)	
Slapton PC	Y	N	Yes – unspecified	Will continue measures for biodiversity	Would want cut and collect as part of future contracts, have found cost of removal of cuttings prohibitive	Also looking for funding (if more costly) as well as any advice to support management for biodiversity They are keen to introduce biodiversity focussed managed on verges within and outside of the village and are keen to work with SHDC on common aspirations where possible
Newton and Noss PC	Y	N	Are passionate about wildlife and are currently reviewing the cuts of their verges to	To enhance biodiversity on their sites	Some potential, albeit SHDC do not have a	

			seek to encourage biodiversity		contract with BPC so would depend on any future contract and types of sites included and schedule	
South Brent PC	Y	N	Various biodiversity projects in partnership with Sustainable South Brent, on SBPC and DCC sites around the parish	Re-tendering in 2022 – they are discussing some changes to their contract to leave some areas as longer grass	Some potential, depending on how the future contract shapes up	
Blackawton PC	Y	N	Already undertake such measures including long grass and collection, including maintenance of some areas by local volunteers	To continue this approach		