

## Full Council

---

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Rycote Meadow Conservation Project</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>16 July 2024</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Becky Reid, Environmental Project Officer Andrea Oughton, Operations Manager</b>

### Purpose of the Report

1. To approve the signing and sealing of a legal deed with South Oxfordshire District Council to receive the Section 106 funding that will enable implementation of this project.

### Background

2. Rycote Meadow is the land to the north side of Oxford Road, opposite Cuttle Brook Nature Reserve. A project to open this land to public access was approved by Community Leisure & Recreation Committee on 20 July 2021. The project includes the installation of a path, with a small boardwalk section, a post and wire fence, the creation of a wetland scrape and a re-working of the current entrance to the land to make it more accessible. The project is being delivered in partnership with Thame Green Living and Cuttle Brook Conservation Volunteers.

### Current status

3. Since the last report we have received notification from South Oxfordshire District Council that the S106 application request (P24/S1094/106) for Rycote Meadow Conservation project has been approved and signed off by the relevant Cabinet member. We have heard from the Infrastructure Implementation Officer that she has now instructed their Legal team to prepare the funding agreement, once agreed and executed she will be able to release the funds.
4. As per the resolution made at Full Council on 14 May 2024, Thame Town Council is now forward funding the implementation of this project to ensure that it is able to be completed during dry weather over the summer months.
5. Once we receive the legal agreement from SODC, subject to there being no significant issues, we will be able to go ahead and draw down this funding subject to Council approval.

### Recommendation:

- i) That on receipt of the legal agreement from SODC pertaining to the S106 application request P24/S1094/106, the Town Clerk can review the agreement and seek legal advice, if needed, for any changes.***
- ii) That, subject to these checks, the Town Council agrees that the legal agreement with South Oxfordshire District Council can be sealed by the Proper Officer in the presence of two Members of the Council who shall sign the deed as witnesses.***