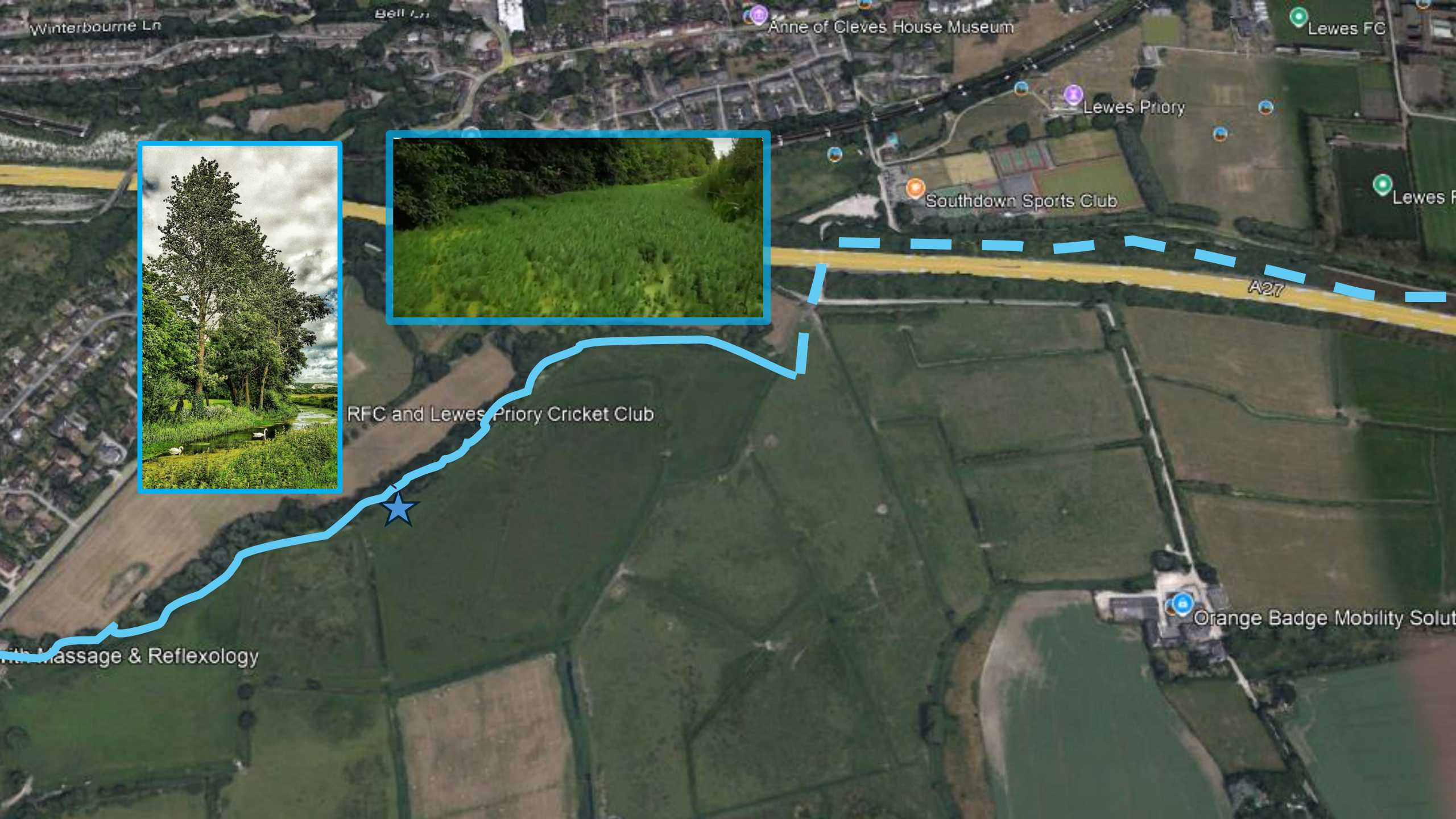


Council of All Beings

Role-play sheets for the
Cockshut Restoration Project Consultation



Winterbourne Ln

Bell Ln

Anne of Cleves House Museum

Lewes FC

Lewes Priory

Southdown Sports Club

Lewes FC

A27

RFC and Lewes Priory Cricket Club

Orange Badge Mobility Solut

with Massage & Reflexology





Winterbourne Ln

Bell Ln

Anne of Cleves House Museum

Lewes FC

Axiom Architects

Lewes Priory

Southdown Sports Club

Lewes P

A27

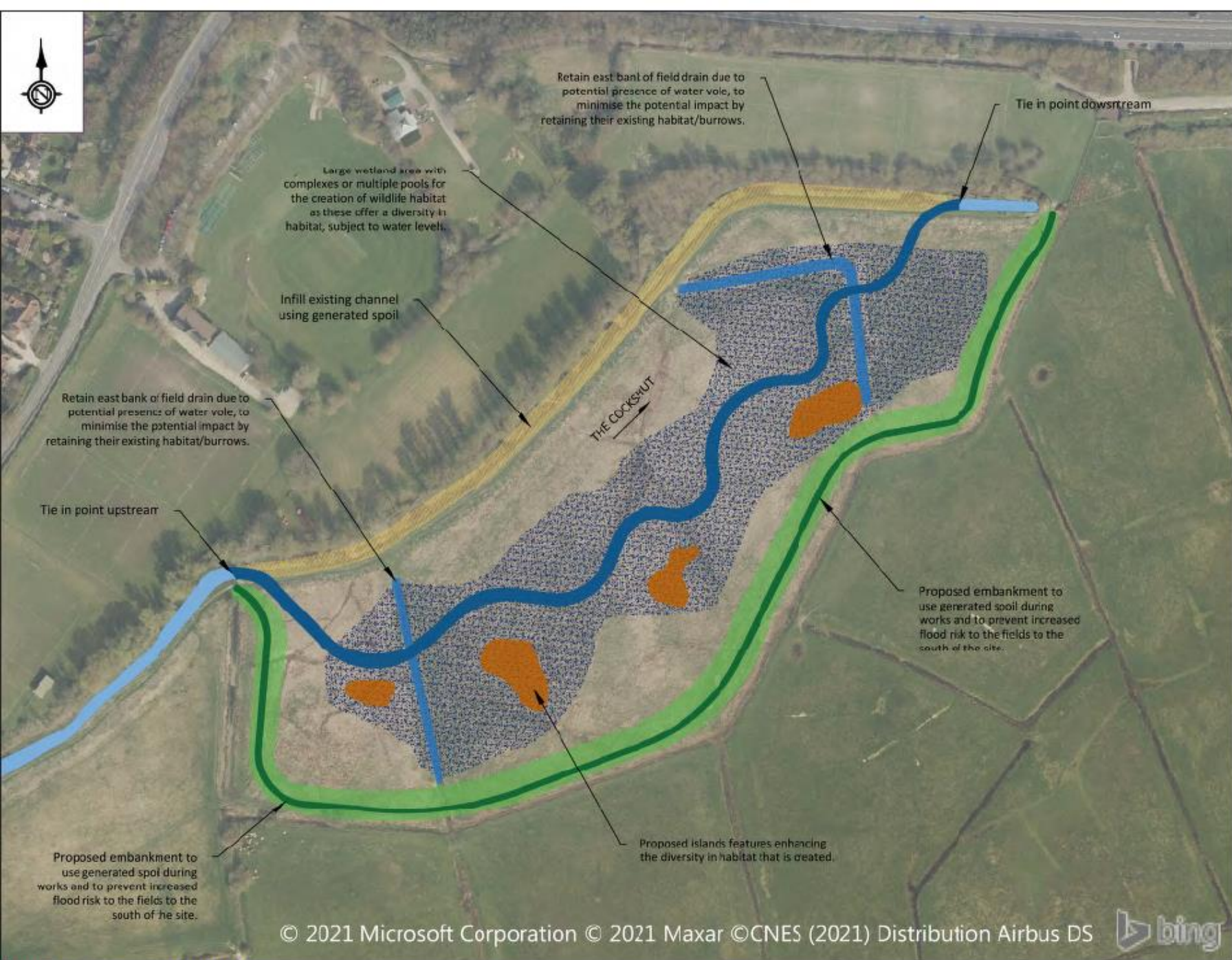
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Kingston Rd

Lewes RFC and Lewes Priory Cricket Club

Orange Badge Mobility Solutions

with Massage & Reflexology



LEGEND

- Existing channel
- Proposed channel
- Proposed wetland
- Proposed islands features
- Proposed embankment

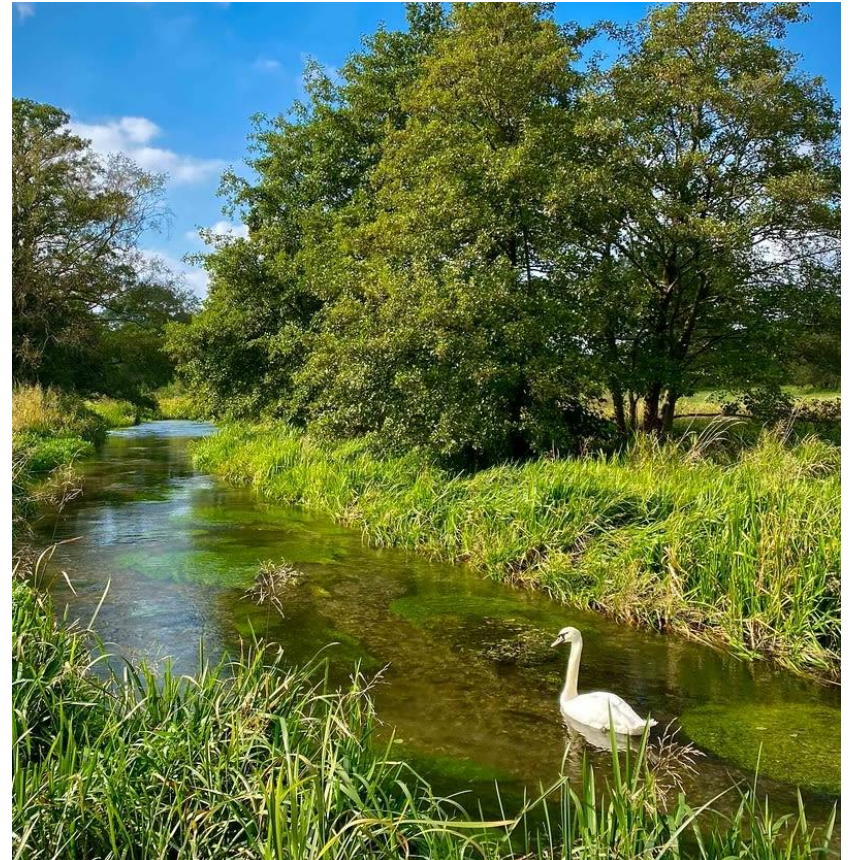


COUNCIL OF ALL BEINGS



The chalk stream

- You flow all year with rainwater from the hills round Kingston percolating through the chalk and coming out as a stream here.
- You used to have many species living in and around you but over the years a new water plant has become a problem choking you and reducing oxygen in the water
- You are one of about 220 chalk streams in the world, rare and precious and most are in the South of England. Three quarters are not in very good condition.
- You love to flow your clear chalk waters through wetlands. You might talk about how wonderful it feels when you flow over healthy long water plants and how you love to provide a home for insects like dragonfly babies, kingfishers love to fish in you. How does this compares to being covered with Parrots feather, straighten and not flowing.
- You like to meander and flow gently in a wiggling sort of way and you like to have some areas of stones to flow over that help make oxygen bubbles so that baby fish can shelter in nurseries.



Councillors for the project

- You like the idea of not just improving the stream but creating a wetland area for all sorts of wildlife.
- You think this will be very popular with local people which will do you good in future elections.
- You think it would be good to link up the stream with other water channels so as to create a better flow of water which will help get rid of Parrots feather.
- With similar work happening nearby at Iford and on the Lewes Brooks, having bigger, better and more joined-up water areas can only be a good thing.



Councillors against the project

- You are worried about the cost of £60,000 that could be spent on other things such as....(be ready to name some things).
- It's a vanity project – Councillors for the project are doing it to feel good and because they think people will vote for them in the future.
- There are several water habitats in the valley already so why do we need another one?
- Fine to do something about the stream (which will cost less) but we don't need a big lake.



Dog walkers

- You love the place as it is because it is not used an awful lot (you have to discover the stream) and dogs love the wildness of the marshes as they are.
- Worried that you'd have to keep your dog on the lead and out of the water.
- It would be a shame to make a large water feature which will attract more people and make the place less special.
- However also love nature and can see the benefits.



Farmers

- You have used this land for many years to graze your cattle in summer and as winter food (or fodder) for your cattle.
- It's a quiet place that not many people know about – there are a few dog walkers but they know the place and you have had no trouble from them over the years.
- You are against the idea as you need the land which you have cared for over many years.



Eels

- You spend most of your time hidden in the dark waters of rivers, lakes and ditches and after being away from the Ouse valley for many years, you returned to this spot a while ago.
- When you are ready to spawn, you travel back across the Atlantic Ocean to the Sargasso sea near Bermuda where you were born.
- You can live for 50 years but more usually for 20 years.
- Recently, you have noticed that there are many, many less of you and you don't know why.
- You like it here – there is food such as fish, molluscs and crustaceans. And you sometimes leave the water and enter the nearby fields to feed on slugs and worms.
- You love clear chalk streams that flows with good oxygen levels where there are places to hide and hunt for food. You used to come to the Cockshut before it become devoid of light and oxegen.



Marsh frogs

- We are Europe's largest frogs and not native to the UK, but a small number of us were released in Kent in the 1930s and we spread into the surrounding wetlands and can now be found throughout the southeast of England.

We love being near water and this site is perfect for us where we croak very loudly in the breeding season. Us males inflate two sacs from each side of our heads like giant bubbles which amplify our calls.

- We know there are a lot of us around here because when one of us starts to call, others join in until you can hear a lot of cackling!
- We are not fussy about what we eat – mostly small fish, reptiles and amphibians including some of our own at times.
- We love clean marshy water with lots of plants that we can sit on and make our loud croaking.



Kingfisher

- I love open, clear water and branches that I can fish from.
- A bigger wetland should have more fish which would be good.
- I use my sharp bill and strong head and neck muscles to impale my prey by diving into streams and rivers at high speed.
- A slippery fish can wriggle out of a beak, but it has no chance of escaping if it is impaled on my sharp bill.
- Once I catch one, I eat it whole and sometimes beat the fish against a rock to kill it before swallowing.
- As males and females, we work together to excavate a burrow from a sandy riverbank to bring up our young. The burrow has one tunnel which ends in a round chamber. When we return to our nests, we fly at high speed directly into the disguised hole in the riverbank. There aren't many nests on this site but the fish are good and we have our burrows a little way away.



Dragonflies

- More water means more space for our nymphs and more flies for us to catch.
- One of us can eat 30 to hundreds of mosquitoes per day, making us natural mosquito controllers.
- We are expert fliers up to 35 mph. We can hover like a helicopter, fly straight up and down, and we need this skill as we can only eat insects that are flying.
- We live fast – just for 3 weeks usually and if we are lucky, for two months.



Future generations



Surely we have a responsibility to leave for future generations a planet that is healthy, inhabitable by all species

~ David Attenborough

Ramblings of the Clary

The Land Ethic--Ahead of its time

the need to foster an environmental ethic that protects and preserves wilderness for current and future generations of humans, nonhuman animals and ecological communities alike.



