

Conservation Strategy

Vision

To create balance and exist in harmony with our environment.

Mission

To pass on our farm in better environmental and productive health than it was at the beginning of our life's tenure.

Aims

1

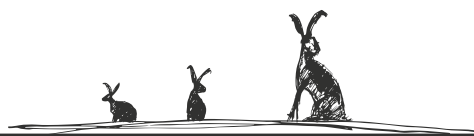
We endeavour to be actively involved in the conservation of our native flora and fauna as well as that outside of the United Kingdom.

2

We aim to promote and support local charities and organisations who are already involved in local conservation projects.

3

We aim to educate visitors about the importance of supporting local and overseas conservation projects as well as living a greener life.



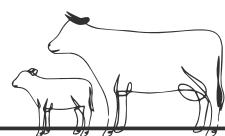
2016 ~ 2021

Conservation of local flora and fauna

- Large field margins (measured space around the field edges) to provide a space for wildlife, most importantly insects and pollinators, alongside crop production. This results in healthier crops.
- Planting of cover crops, firstly to refuel the soil between the demand of growing crops, secondly to provide a habitat for wildlife and lastly to feed grazing animals during the winter months who then fertilise the soil naturally.
- Hedge restoration to provide a habitat for wildlife. Green material also reduces carbon footprint as it absorbs carbon from the atmosphere.
- Tree and shrub establishment to provide a habitat for wildlife. Green material also reduces carbon footprint as it absorbs carbon from the atmosphere.
- Swallow surveys and nest assistance due to the birds becoming displaced during the first few years of diversification (change of traditional use of the farm).
- Barn Owl box to monitor the visiting Barn Owl.
- Reddish Buff Moth Project to help conserve this rare species

Promote and support local charities/organisations

- Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
- National Trust
- Isle of Wight Bat Hospital
- Save Our Hedgehogs



2016 ~ 2021

*Educate our visitors about conservation projects
and living a greener life*

Existing conservation strategies displayed in the Animal Barn:

- The Reddish Buff Moth Project
- Establishment of the Tapnell Trail including footpaths and bridleways to promote responsible land access and the many positives of engaging with the natural environment.
- Taking care of our waste:
Repurposing of barns and old equipment across the farm into new areas rather than buying brand new. Our network of sewage treatment plants, as we are off grid, reducing our need for external services. Food packaging such as Vegware used in the Coffee House is biodegradable and will decompose in landfill. The removal of plastic cutlery and straws and provision of more sustainable options. Tapnell Farm awarded Plastic Free Champion status for this work.
- The growing of crops for energy and food production and adapting this to meet the changing needs of farming.
- The biomass boiler which burns natural materials to heat our properties and not fossil fuels which subsequently reduces carbon footprint.
- The generation of power from our 500kw of solar panels, that equates to about 300 homes. This makes us electric positive and the rest is exported to the National Grid.



2022 ~ 2024

Conservation of local flora and fauna

- Further tree and shrub establishment in the farm park, including signage for species established and wildlife benefit, and a peaceful Conservation Garden.
- Swallow surveys and potential further artificial nest relocation if required.
- Sparrow Street and Sparrow surveys to give the sparrows somewhere to nest and roost and then for us to be able to monitor their activity on the farm and send data to the British Trust for Ornithology.
- Carry out seasonal wildlife surveys and identify target species for surveying and protection where possible. Incorporate these species into an interactive Conservation Wall located in the Animal Barn opposite the park map.
- Wildlife Walk for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (17th May)
- The encouragement of visitors to record and monitor local wildlife species at home, using our social media platforms.
- Signage to educate about our unique UNESCO Biosphere Reserve Status and what this means.
- Build bug hotels and have educational signage.

Promote and support local charities/organisations

- Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust - Our chosen charity for 2023, to help further promote and fundraise for them
- National Trust
- Isle of Wight Bat Hospital
- Save Our Hedgehogs
- English Nature
- Woodland Trust
- RSPB/British Trust for Ornithology (The RSPB will attend the farm in Summer 2022)
- The Bat Conservation Trust



2022 ~ 2024

*Educate our visitors about conservation projects
and living a greener life*

- Continued repurposing of spaces on the farm to further promote natural human powered fun such as the revamped Pumpkin Patch, Maize Maze and Sunflower Field.
- Update of existing conservation strategies by construction of Conservation Wall.
- Proactively engaging the public on the importance of INNS (Invasive Non-Native Species) and as to why we should not be illegally promoting the selling or release of these species into areas that they do not inhabit; plus the effect this can have on ecosystems and well as the welfare on animals.
- Website updates on each resident animal species, their red list status, and facts by 2024.
- Strategies and signage for the Coffee House such as coffee ground repurposing and a can crusher.
- New Infographic being produced by Marketing that could include information on how the rest of the farm (Accommodation, The Cow, The Aqua Park and Target Sports, The Wedding and Events Barn, The Farm Shop and Football Golf) promotes our natural environment and reduces their carbon footprint.
- Taking care of our waste: The construction of a biodigester to consume biodegradable and compostable waste and hopefully turn it into fertiliser for the crops, flowering plants and veggies (for the Farm Shop) and biomass pellets to use in our biomass boiler.
- Work closely with The Bat Conservation Trust, hopefully run some acoustic surveys with them, promote bats and the work the Bats Trust do.
- Continue to support the RSPB and The Hampshire and IOW Wildlife Trust, but inviting them for regular visits to the farm so their fundraisers can engage with customers on the work they do.

