

## Happy Valley Management Plan 2017-2021

### Progress summary

| <b>CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>   |                    |                      |                 |                  |                |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Action</b>  | <b>Lead Agency</b> | <b>To be done by</b> | <b>When</b>     | <b>Funded by</b> | <b>Comment</b> |
| Locate further information, photos, other items etc. and add to the archive.   | FHV.               | FHV / all.           | Ongoing.        | N/A.             |                |
| Prepare display material ready to be used in the house.  | FHV/OIC.           | FHV.                 | As appropriate. | To be decided.   |                |
| Replace selected items in the house (currently in storage at neighbouring property) when house is in suitable condition. | FHV.               | FHV.                 | As appropriate. | To be decided.   |                |
| Design a leaflet about Happy Valley and its history.   | FHV/OIC.           | FHV/OIC.             | Aspirational.   | To be decided.   |                |
| Make a film about Happy Valley   | FHV/OIC.           | Consultant.          | Aspirational.   | To be decided.   |                |

| <b>HOUSE &amp; LAWN</b>  |                    |                      |                           |                  |   |
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| <b>Action</b>  | <b>Lead Agency</b> | <b>To be done by</b> | <b>When</b>               | <b>Funded by</b> | <b>Comment</b>  |
| Complete roof and external wall renovation.  | OIC.               | OIC.                 | Subject to grant funding. | OIC.             | A project to replace the roof was funded by the Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership Scheme. Further work will be necessary, in order to make the house fully watertight. This will be subject to external funding. |
| Install rainwater goods.   | OIC.               | OIC.                 |                           |                  |   |
| Install French drain along rear of house.  | OIC.               | OIC.                 |                           |                  |   |
| Carry out final painting and minor works to consolidated building.   | OIC.               | OIC.                 |                           |                  |   |
| Discuss and explore options for how the building will be used and managed.   | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | 2017 – 18.                | N/A.             | These discussions should take place ahead of any funding bid to complete renovation of the house.   |
| Sort house contents currently in storage and decide which should be replaced in house, removing the remainder.     | FHV.               | FHV.                 | Ongoing.                  | Volunteer time.  |   |
| Maintain flower beds and plants around the building and add to as necessary, avoiding invasive non-native species. | FHV.               | FHV.                 | Ongoing.                  | Volunteer time.  |   |
| Maintain regular mowing of lawn.   | OIC.               | OIC.                 | Ongoing.                  | OIC.             | This is an ongoing commitment.  |
| Discuss energy options for Happy Valley.   | OIC/FHV.           | OIC.                 | 2017-18.                  | N/A.             |   |

| <b>HOUSE &amp; LAWN</b>   |                    |                      |  |                           |                |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|--|---------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Action</b>   | <b>Lead Agency</b> | <b>To be done by</b> | <b>When</b>                                    | <b>Funded by</b>          | <b>Comment</b> |
| Investigate options for small-scale renewable energy supply to the house.                   | OIC/FHV.           | OIC.                 | 2017-18.                                       | Subject to grant funding. |                |
| If deemed suitable for Happy Valley, source funding to install renewable energy technology. | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | 2017-18.                                       | Subject to grant funding. |                |
| Restore hydro scheme.   | FHV.               | FHV.                 | Aspirational. Dependent on funding & consents. | Subject to grant funding. |                |

| <b>MATURE WOODLAND &amp; YOUNG TREES</b>  |                     |                           |              |                   |  |
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| <b>Action:</b>  | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b>     | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b> |  |
| Ongoing monitoring of trees to assess health and condition, to identify and mark any which are in an unsafe condition and require felling or pruning. | OIC.                | OIC.                      | 2017.        | OIC.              | Approximately 60 trees were identified by Jenny Taylor as either dead or detrimental to other trees.     |
| Undertake felling and pruning of marked trees, in consultation with FHV.  | OIC.                | Horticultural contractor. | 2017.        | OIC.              | Following consultation with FHV, OIC contracted Ewan Mackenzie to fell these trees during November 2017. |
| Include Happy Valley in OIC tree survey and   | OIC.                | Consultant tree surgeon.  | 2018 onward. | OIC.              | In future this may be done in-house.   |

| <b>MATURE WOODLAND &amp; YOUNG TREES</b>   |                     |                       |              |                     |  |
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| <b>Action:</b>   | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b>   |  |
| management programme and report to FHV.  |                     |                       |              |                     |  |
| Undertake an assessment with a view to placing a Tree Preservation Order on the wood.  | OIC.                | OIC.                  | 2017-18.     | OIC.                | Ongoing.   |
| Check young trees twice a year and remove guards as necessary.   | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Ongoing.     | Volunteer time.     |  |
| Retain fallen deadwood in suitable places within wood.   | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Ongoing.     | Volunteer time.     |  |
| Continue eradication of invasive non-native plants, e.g. salmonberry, raspberry and Japanese knotweed through cutting followed by herbicide treatment. | OIC/FHV.            | OIC/FHV.              | Ongoing.     | Volunteer time/OIC. | <p>Eradication of salmonberry is ongoing. FHV cut down woody stems and regrowth is treated with glyphosate herbicide. The Scapa Flow Landscape Partnership Scheme paid for one of the Friends to sit the course at Orkney College. He is no longer happy to use herbicides. Two younger members have expressed a wish to undertake training; however as far as we know they haven't done so. The course was held in February this year.</p> <p>It may be necessary to contract out the herbicide spraying during 2018, until the Friends have undergone the required training.</p> |

| <b>MATURE WOODLAND &amp; YOUNG TREES</b>  |                     |                       |               |  |  |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|--|
| <b>Action:</b>  | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b>  | <b>Funded by:</b>  |  |
| Seek permission to manage trees and invasive plants on neighbouring land which is in different ownership.   | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Ongoing.      | Volunteer time.  |  |
| Monitor invasive species.   | FHV/OIC.            | FHV.                  | Ongoing.      | Volunteer time/ OIC.   |  |
| Plant new trees and shrubs on OIC-owned land, using mainly species native to Orkney or Scotland, providing new woodland for the future. Replacing certain non-natives on a like for like basis may be appropriate in the mature woodland, | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Ongoing.      | Volunteer time. Subject to grant funding, e.g. from Woodland Trust | This was mentioned at the last FHV meeting. Planting is likely to be undertaken in the 'Young tree' field in an area which will avoid overhead wires.<br><br>Unlikely to take place until autumn 2018 or spring 2019, when ground conditions will be suitable. |
| Complete installation of engraved tree marker stones on OIC-owned land.   | FHV.                | FHV.                  | 2017-18.      | Volunteer time.  | Some of the marker stones were installed when they were originally supplied. A few have yet to be installed.   |
| Label trees as appropriate.   | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Aspirational. | Volunteer time.  | FHV considered having smaller labels which could be attached to the trees.   |

| <b>BURN &amp; HYDROLOGY</b> |                     |                       |              |                   |   |
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| <b>Action:</b>              | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b> |   |
| Undertake a survey of       | OIC.                | OIC.                  | 2017.        | OIC.              | Some of the built stone structures on the |

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| the burn and identify remedial works required.   |          |  |                            |                 | burn are in need of repair. For example, a high rainfall event during late summer 2017 led to high water flows which washed away some of the soil alongside the waterfall. However, any survey would need to be undertaken during the summer months when the water level is at its lowest. |
| Prepare a work programme for the lifetime of the Management Plan.                                | OIC.     | OIC.   | 2017.                      | OIC.            | A work programme will be drawn up, based on the findings of the above survey.  |
| Check safety of burn-side paths and structures and repair as necessary.                          | OIC.     | OIC/FHV<br>FHV to report any obvious issues. | Ongoing.                   | As appropriate. | A small shed which housed the hydro scheme appears to have an asbestos roof. The entire shed is in poor condition and has been earmarked for removal.<br><br>FHV has received grant funding of £500 to repair a section of the woodland path alongside the burn.                           |
| Repair sides of waterfall.   | OIC/FHV. | OIC/FHV.                                     | FV to alert OIC to issues. | As appropriate. | Any work to the waterfall will be planned according to the findings of the above survey.   |
| Remove corrugated asbestos from hydro scheme and elsewhere in woodland.                          | OIC.     | OIC.   | 2017.                      | OIC.            | An order was issued on 12 April to remove the shed and two other pieces of corrugated asbestos. The completion date is 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2018.  |
| Research the history of the Hydro-electric scheme and contact people who may have been involved. | FHV.     | FHV.   | Ongoing.                   | Volunteer time. |  |
| Record remaining   | FHV.     | FHV.   | Ongoing.                   | Volunteer       |  |

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| infrastructure of scheme. |  |  |  | time. |  |
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| <b>POND</b>   |                     |                       |                       |                   |   |
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| <b>Action:</b>  | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b>          | <b>Funded by:</b> | <b>Comment</b>  |
| Update the risk assessment for the pond.  | OIC.                | OIC.                  | April 2017.           | OIC.              | The original assessment was drawn up to address any risks associated with construction of the pond. Now that the pond has been constructed, a more appropriate action may be to include advice for parents to supervise their children at all time. A notice to this effect may be placed within the FHV cabinet. |
| Planting of waterside plants to be discussed and agreed, all to be of Orkney native provenance and grown locally. | OIC/FHV.            | OIC/FHV.              | Spring 2017 and 2018. | OIC.              | A number of plants are currently being grown from locally sourced seed. When ready, these will be planted out by volunteers.  |
| Seek funding to design a leaflet featuring the pond and its wildlife.   | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Aspirational.         | To be decided.    |   |
| Leaflets to be designed and printed.  | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Aspirational.         | To be decided.    |   |

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| <b>BIODIVERSITY</b> |  |
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| <b>Action:</b>   | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b> |   |
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| Establish Happy Valley as a Local Nature Reserve.  | OIC.                | OIC.                  | 2017.        | OIC.              | Happy Valley was declared a Local Nature Reserve on 22 August 2017.   |
| Encourage visiting and local naturalists to hold biodiversity recording events at HV, sharing records with OWIARC. | OIC.                | OIC.                  | Ongoing.     | OIC.              | The Orkney Wildlife Information and Advice Centre held a Bio blitz event at Happy Valley on 19 August 2017. |
| Where possible, carry out more detailed habitat surveys of flora and fauna.  | OIC.                | OIC.                  | TBC.         | OIC.              |   |

| <b>THE FIELDS</b>   |                     |                       |              |                                       |   |
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| <b>Action:</b>  | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b>                     |   |
| <b>Field 1, the pond field</b>  |                     |                       |              |                                       |   |
| Create a new path through this field, connecting with the main wood, thus providing a second circular walk from the car park. | FHV.                | FHV.                  | 2018.        | OIC/FHV.<br>Subject to grant funding. | FHV used its funds to have a set of wooden steps installed at the western end of the woodland, close to the corner of the pond field.<br><br>A funding bid to WREN was submitted on 13 March 2018. The bid included installation of a recycled plastic boardwalk, two stone benches and a self-closing gate. We will be informed of the outcome of the bid during |

| <b>THE FIELDS</b>  |                     |                       |              |                   |   |
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| <b>Action:</b>   | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b> |   |
|  |                     |                       |              |                   | early June.   |
| Agree a maintenance plan which will enable improvements to both the accessibility and biodiversity value of the field.       | OIC                 | OIC/FHV               | 2018         | OIC/FHV           | Installation of the proposed boardwalk would significantly improve accessibility through this field. In particular, this would allow disabled access. |
| <b>Field 4, the wildflower field</b>   |                     |                       |              |                   |   |
| Retain OIC wildflower nursery in current location.   | OIC.                | OIC.                  | Ongoing.     | No cost.          |   |
| Lease this field for winter grazing by sheep. An initial one-year trial to be undertaken over the period October - February. | OIC.                | OIC.                  | 2017-2018.   | OIC.              | This field was let for grazing during 2017-2018. Underlying ground conditions are wet, therefore stocking density had to be reduced to six sheep.     |
| If grazing trial proves successful, repeat whilst undertaking annual reviews of the effects on the vegetation of the field.  | OIC.                | OIC.                  | Ongoing.     | OIC.              |   |
| <b>Field 5, the north field</b>  |                     |                       |              |                   |   |
| Lease this field for summer grazing by sheep.  | OIC.                | OIC.                  | Spring 2017. | OIC.              | This field was successfully leased during summer 2017 and was again auctioned for lease this year, to be grazed from 1 May until                      |

| <b>THE FIELDS</b>   |                     |                       |               |                   |   |
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| <b>Action:</b>  | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b>  | <b>Funded by:</b> |   |
|   |                     |                       |               |                   | 30 September.   |
| In the longer term, consider use of part of the field as an 'overspill' parking area.     | OIC/FHV.            | OIC.                  | Aspirational. | OIC.              |   |
| <b>Field 6, the young tree field</b>  |                     |                       |               |                   |   |
| Maintain mown grass path through the field but leave the remainder of the field uncut.    | OIC.                | OIC.                  | Ongoing.      | OIC.              | This is an ongoing commitment.                                  |
| Assess opportunities for further tree planting in this field.                             | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Aspirational. | TBC.              |   |
| Assess opportunities for seating and informal picnicking areas in shelter of young trees. | FHV.                | FHV.                  | Aspirational. | TBC.              | One of the proposed stone benches will be placed in this field. |

| <b>ACCESS &amp; CAR PARKING</b>                              |                     |                       |              |  |                                |
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| <b>Action:</b>   | <b>Lead Agency:</b> | <b>To be done by:</b> | <b>When:</b> | <b>Funded by:</b>                          |                                |
| Maintain Happy Valley access track, topping up potholes etc. | FHV.                | FHV.                  | As required. | Materials provided by OIC. Volunteer time. | This is an ongoing commitment. |

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| Regularly check that all paths, rails, and steps are safe for public use. FHV to report issues to OIC. | OIC.     | OIC/FHV. | Ongoing.      | OIC.  | This is an ongoing commitment.  |
| Prepare a list of assets to be checked regularly and agree responsibilities.                           | OIC/FHV. | OIC/FHV. | 2017.         | OIC/FHV.  |   |
| Regularly cut any other grass paths designated in future.  | OIC.     | OIC.     | Aspirational. | TBC.<br>FHV cut grass track through pond field. | If bid for funding is successful the cut path will be replaced by a recycled plastic boardwalk. |

| <b>INTERPRETATION, INFORMATION &amp; SIGNAGE</b>   |                    |                      |                     |                           |   |
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| <b>Action</b>  | <b>Lead Agency</b> | <b>To be done by</b> | <b>When</b>         | <b>Funded by</b>          |   |
| Erect a plaque, acknowledging the generous gifting of Happy Valley by Professor Isbister and explaining his ancestors' connections with the place. | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | Subject to funding. | OIC.                      | This has been completed. A stainless-steel plaque has been mounted on a stone plinth alongside the cottage. |
| Erect carved 'Happy Valley' stone at track end.  | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | Aspirational.       | Subject to grant funding. | FHV have arranged for an existing stone to be engraved.   |

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| <b>EDUCATIONAL AND RECREATIONAL USE OF SITE</b> |
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| Action  | Lead Agency | To be done by | When          | Funded by       |  |
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| Encourage events which highlight the importance of trees to many bird species, invertebrates, mosses, lichens, fungi etc.                           | OIC/FHV     | OIC/FHV.      | Ongoing.      | As appropriate. |  |
| Maintain calendar, keeping record of dates any groups are visiting the site and who is liaising with them. Keep OIC informed through monthly emails | FHV.        | FHV.          | Ongoing.      | Volunteer time. |  |
| Make use of existing educational resources, e.g. OWP Woodland Boxes.  | FHV.        | FHV.          | Ongoing.      | N/A.            |  |
| Develop educational sheets and resources about various aspects of Happy Valley.   | FHV.        | FHV.          | Aspirational. | TBC.            |  |
| Promote innovative use of site, e.g. for music, arts or craft events.   | FHV.        | FHV.          | Aspirational. | TBC.            |  |

| <b>DECISION MAKING</b>   |             |               |          |           |  |
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| Action   | Lead Agency | To be done by | When     | Funded by |  |
| Maintain a good working partnership between OIC and the FHV of Happy Valley, so that roles and responsibilities, including | OIC/FHV.    | OIC/FHV.      | Ongoing. | N/A.      | The Council's Environmental Policy Officer and Rural Planner attend FHV meetings and maintain good links with FHV Chair and Secretary. |

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| those relating to health and safety, are clear.  |      |      |                 |                 |           |
| Have a named OIC contact for the FHV, who will attend meetings and consult with them over decisions. | OIC. | OIC. | Spring 2017.    | N/A.            | As above. |
| Arrange regular FHV meetings   | FHV. | FHV. | As appropriate. | Volunteer time. |           |

| <b>FINANCES</b>  |                    |                      |               |                           |  |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Action</b>  | <b>Lead Agency</b> | <b>To be done by</b> | <b>When</b>   | <b>Funded by</b>          |  |
| Confirm the level of funding which will be available from OIC and the FHV. | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | Ongoing.      | N/A.                      |  |
| Identify where further funding will be required.                           | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | Ongoing.      | OIC through officer time. |  |
| Identify potential external sources of funding.                            | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | Ongoing.      | OIC through officer time. | FHV undertake regular fundraising activities. In March 2018 OIC submitted a bid to WREN for funding to upgrade access facilities at Happy Valley. See above for further details. |
| Collect money that is publicly donated on site.                            | FHV.               | FHV.                 | Ongoing.      | Volunteer time.           |  |
| Commission donations box.  | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | Aspirational. | TBC.                      |  |

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| Prepare and sell leaflet / DVD / photos / cards etc. | OIC/FHV. | OIC/FHV. | Aspirational. | TBC. |  |
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| <b>MONITORING</b>  |                    |                      |             |  |                 |
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| <b>Action</b>  | <b>Lead Agency</b> | <b>To be done by</b> | <b>When</b> | <b>Funded by</b>                                 | <b>Comment.</b> |
| Prepare, agree and implement a maintenance and monitoring plan with roles and responsibilities identified. | OIC/FHV.           | OIC/FHV.             | 2017.       | OIC through officer time.<br>FHV volunteer time. |                 |