



APPENDIX 2 - CODE OF PRACTICE

1. Community

All sectors of the community will be encouraged to participate and local expertise and skills will be used and shared wherever possible. Bullying, victimisation, harassment and discrimination of any kind will not be tolerated.

2. Management

A Steering Group will manage the project and all risk (e.g. health and safety, legal, financial etc) associated with it in accordance with the Constitution attached (as varied from time to time) and uphold the Code of Practice. The majority of members will be local residents. A Land Management Plan will be produced, and published on the Dane Valley Woods website. This Plan will be reviewed annually.

3. Ownership

The Steering Group will manage the land, and in recognition of its status as a Local Green Space in the Thanet Local Plan which is the subject of the project for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Steering Group will endeavour to secure ownership of the land or to acquire legal rights therein for the community, in so far as the community does not already own or possess such rights. All legal rights will be held in trust of the benefit of the community in accordance with this Code of Practice and Constitution.

4. Woodland Type

Only native or fully naturalised trees and shrubs will be planted. This is to enhance the traditional landscape, provide a rich haven for wildlife, and increase biodiversity. Wherever possible, local provenance will be used.

5. Carbon Offsetting

The Steering Group will not engage in any carbon credit schemes and will not accept donations for carbon offsetting.

6. Sustainability

The project will strive to become fully sustainable:

- **Environmentally** – by using safe traditional silviculture practices, a ‘no chemical’ policy, environmentally friendly materials and structures sympathetic to their surroundings.
- **Socially** – by making the project enjoyable, engendering community spirit and making sure that knowledge and skills are passed on to successive generations.
- **Financially** – by keeping administration simple, costs low and ensuring that skills needed are developed within the community.

7. Health & Safety

All practical activities, educational talks and public events will be carried out under a health and safety policy that shall be published on the Dane Valley Woods website. This policy will include the following:-

- Public Liability Insurance
- Risk assessments and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Power tool training and record keeping
- Accident recording and the safe storage of personal information
- Child protection