National Park Cities

https://www.nationalparkcity.org/

What is a National Park City?

"A large urban area that is managed and semi-protected through both formal and informal means to enhance the natural capital of its living landscape.

A defining feature is the widespread and significant commitment of residents, visitors and decision-makers to allow natural processes to provide a foundation for a better quality of life"

What if…?

- Citizens had more agency in shaping the use of public land

- Housing developments incorporated nature into the fundamental design

- Urban design considered the needs of hedgehogs, bees and butterflies

- Ethnically diverse groups had equal access to green space and could develop a sense of belonging both to place and to groups interested in nature

- Local food sovereignty was a serious priority for local authorities, Universities and businesses?

Why do we want National Park City status?

- Link between New Forest and South Downs

- Tourist destination/desirable place to live and work – green architecture, lido, green grid

- Health and wellbeing

- Combat biodiversity loss

- Living our best lives

- Community cohesion

How do we get it?

- Widespread consultation – imagine the National Park City

- Engage community groups, faith groups, business community, decision-makers

- Implement the vision – all stakeholders

- Submit portfolio to the National Park City Foundation

Example projects

Example proposals

- Leave strategic highways unmown
- Oyster farm in the Itchen
- Application process for parklets
- Slow down traffic with planters

- Child hedgehog champions,
- Food in schools project
- Subsidised rides with e-bikes to borrow
- TREEmendous
- Gardening tool library

New Forest link

- Subsidised bus tour

- Bike rides

- Walking festival

- Work with transport providers?

- What do you think?

Questions?

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