

Mission: working in partnership with Somerset Wildlife Trust to encourage appreciation, conservation and promotion of the geology of Somerset.



Aims and objectives

- **Local Geological Sites (LGSs)** - Our priority over the next few years will be to re-survey and monitor the c 230 Local Geological Sites (LGSs) in Somerset in partnership with the Somerset Environmental Records Centre (SERC), a trading unit of SWT. This will provide a more up-to-date evidence base from which to advise others and help to identify priorities and opportunities for the future.
- **Encouraging and advising others** - We will also act as a network to encourage delivery of the UK Geodiversity Action Plan www.ukgap.org.uk and England Geodiversity Charter www.englishgeodiversityforum.org.
- **Planning** - We will endeavour to encourage planning authorities within Somerset to take LGSs and wider geo-diversity interest into account in local plan policies and to respond to any develop control issues on LGSs received via SERC and other enquiries.
- **Field excursions and talks on geology organised by others; and new publications relevant to Somerset's geology** - lists of these were compiled by the group in the past. These were both worthwhile activities, but we do not have capacity to restart either at present, unless a suitable interested volunteer(s) emerges.
- **Temporary sections** – Another important function of the original SGG group was to record and publish observations of temporary geological exposures such as pipeline trenches, but again this activity will not be a priority at present, unless a major need or volunteer opportunity presents itself.

Membership and organization

- Membership will be open to those with an interest in our aims and will be by addition to an e-group, with one or two meetings and e-*Updates* each year. There will be no subscription, but contributions may be invited to cover, for example, any meeting costs.
- Co-ordination will be achieved by an informal 'co-ordinating committee' - currently referred to as the 'Working group' - to provide a relevant range of expertise, knowledge and continuity from the past, with the LGS project 'Steering group' and individual volunteer roles also developed as needed.
- The 'co-ordinating committee' will ensure that SGG continues to be a member of GeoconservationUK. NB SGG currently has no group insurance cover and site visits for the current partnership project with SERC to resurvey and monitor Somerset's LGSs will be made under SERC's procedures.

*Agreed at our SGG meeting in October 2017
to update our terms of reference*