

## R1: Identify the beneficiaries for making the case for BGI

- Flooding was the main motivator for project implementation, given 12 properties were flooded regularly.
- However, it was recognised that it was important to maximise the benefits of the investment.
- BEST tool to consider life-cycle costs with consideration of other benefits, including:
  - Biodiversity
  - Air quality
  - Health and well-being
- Local beneficiaries beyond the immediate neighbours included the local school, hospital and local council.



## **R2:** Relate the BGI to communities by demonstrating the value to them

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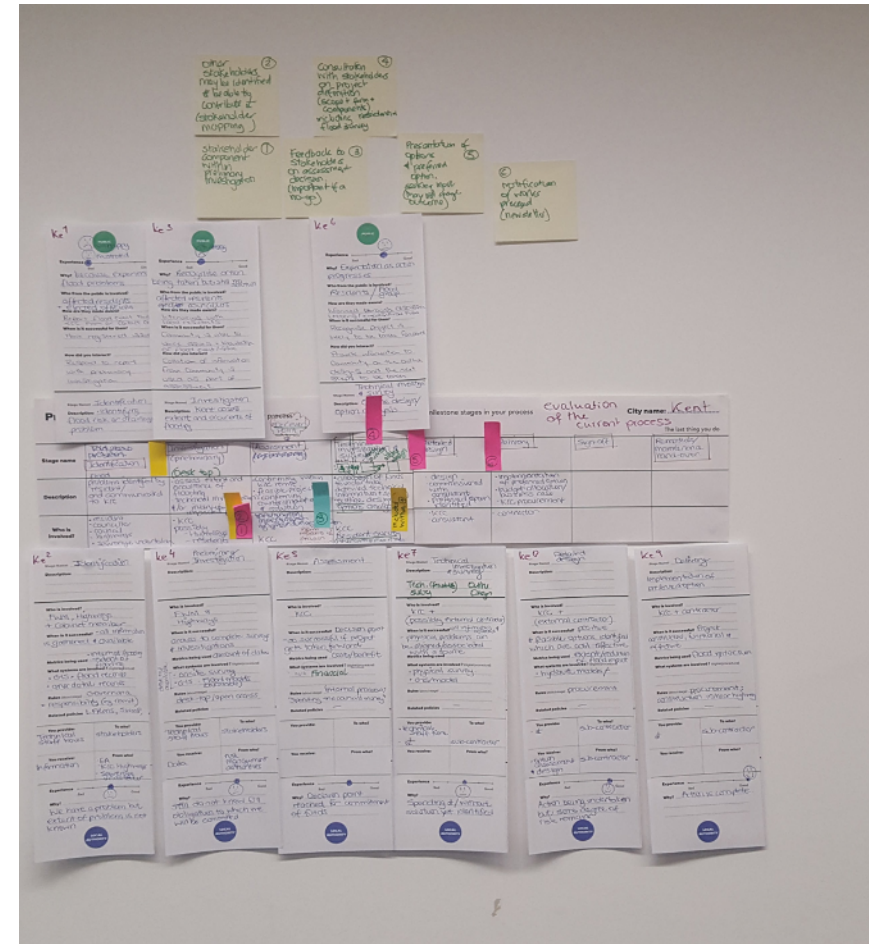
- The Places Team was commissioned to support the community to assess the preferred landscape approach.
- They facilitated community workshops with options.
- The neighbours visited local schemes with presentations by the Kent Wildlife Trust on wildlife friendly gardening.
- The neighbours established new relationships as well as bonding in creating a solution that was agreeable to all – community forming!





## R3: BGI requires interdisciplinary municipal (and other) partnering

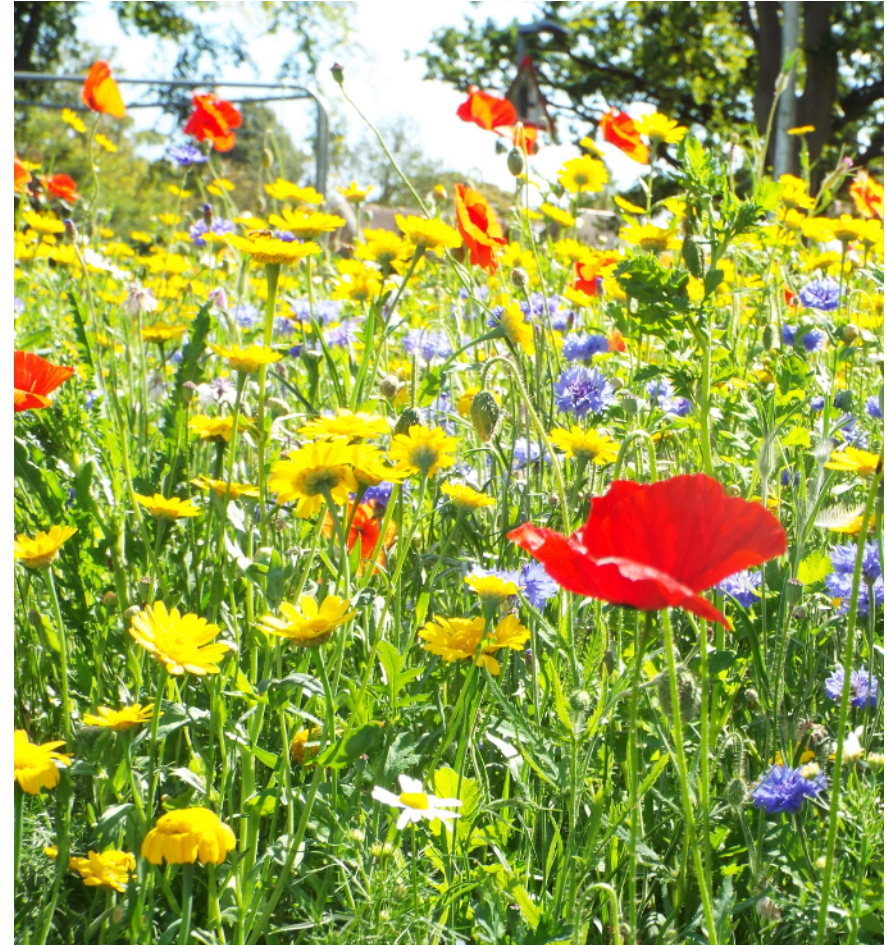
- Kent's Flood and Water Management has sought to better the inter department appreciation and delivery of BGI, with workshops and site meetings.
- It is important that the local authority is engaged at all key decisions. Swale Borough Council's planning officers and open space manager have been very supportive of the improvements.
- Kent has sought other partners within the community, including Kent Wildlife Trust and Catchment Management Partnerships to engage with local communities and build trust.



## **R4:** Develop asset management principles and processes for BGI

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- As a local authority Kent County Council has sensitivity to on-going maintenance costs.
- Community delivery of maintenance program being explored through the “living lab” of the Glovers Crescent neighbours supported Kent Wildlife Trust and Swale Borough Council.
- Scheme monitoring will occur over the next three years as to the effectiveness of implementation and neighbour satisfaction





# Outcomes

## Learning:

Engagement of the community within engineering design and delivery

Project evaluation and promoting wider perspective on benefits

## Challenges :

Inter-disciplinary working always has issues in relation to connectivity, momentum and on perceived limitations of responsibilities

## Future:

Up-scaling of the community engagement and application on new projects within Sittingbourne

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**Thank you!**

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