[DELETE OR AMEND ALL OF THE TEXT IN YELLOW]

[Insert your home address here]

Thursday, 27 January 2022

[Insert your neighbour(s) address here]

Dear [Neighbour],

I am writing to tell you about the West Oxfordshire District Council Hedgehog Highways project, and request that we take part together and join others across the town to create urban hedgehog highways.

Hedgehogs are currently being lost from the parks and gardens of Britain at a rate of around 5% per year - that’s the same rate as tigers are being lost globally. One of the main reasons that hedgehogs are declining is because fences and walls within areas of housing are becoming more and more secure, reducing the amount of land available for them to forage, hibernate and breed. On average, a hedgehog’s home range is around 10—20 hectares in size, with a hedgehog roaming an average distance of 2km on a single night!

West Oxfordshire District Council have recently launched a Hedgehog Highways project, with the aim of removing such barriers and increasing the range of this declining species across urban landscapes. They are asking residents across the more urban areas of the district to create hedgehog-sized holes in their fences and walls, to make longer connected stretches of accessible habitat for hedgehogs.

I would like to take part in this scheme and create a hedgehog hole in the [wall/fence/gate] that joins our two properties - it would be great to help out our local wildlife in this small way. If you are happy to do so, we can spend some time finding the location that works well for both us and the hedgehogs. We can also talk about other ways we can improve our gardens for hedgehogs to encourage them to visit.

The best way to get in touch with me is to [knock on my door/send a text message to [insert number here]/call me on [insert number here]]. If you have any questions about hedgehogs and the Hedgehog Highways scheme, please don’t hesitate to let me know.

Yours sincerely,

[Sign with your name and house number here]