

## **Matt Johns**

Matt is an experienced chartered environmental consultant and business leader specialising in Environmental Impact Assessments, Environmental Risk Assessments, biodiversity, environmental design and planning and water management.

He has spent the last 30 years investigating and working on how to understand, design, agree and achieve minimum impacts and deliver the maximum environmental benefit possible where there is proposed development, whether that relates to an individual building, a golf course, or new housing.

Matt is Director and co-owner of Johns Associates, a Wiltshire-based multidisciplinary environmental consultancy. Currently the firm is working with Salisbury City Council to produce a Tree and Ecosystem Strategy. The Council has identified improving biodiversity in the city as a key priority.

Information from the Strategy will detail the current number of trees on City Council owned and maintained land, as well as an aerial canopy survey with a map and percentage of tree coverage. The Strategy will identify suitable land for planting and advise on appropriate native trees for those areas. At the moment residents can identify key and significant trees and add it to [this map](#). This [article](#) has more information: the consultation has been extended to the end of November.

Matt is out in the field as often as in the office but also finds time to work part-time on a PhD at the University of Manchester. His research relates to maximising carbon sequestration/storage and ecosystem services through wetland habitat restoration.

Matt was deeply involved working with Wiltshire Council on the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy which members of the Land Use group of WCA spent time on last year so we are looking forward to hearing about his work in Salisbury and across the County.