



## The vision: Stockholm City's First Bee and Pollinator Park

Stockholm has a unique park. Created as the world's first national city park **Kungliga nationalstadsparken** contains 27 km<sup>2</sup> forest, open land, woods and beaches, right in the middle of a capital city. From Djurgården, through Diplomatstaden, Gärdet via Haga park up to Polishögskola the area provides thousands of people with easy access to nature every day. It's a wonderful example of a city recognising the importance of ecosystems in its midst.



### Why do we need bees?

"Because seventy-six per cent of everything we grow in Europe requires pollination."

Lasse Helander Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund

### And is there a problem with bees in Sweden and what can we do in Stockholm

"Well, yes... 40 per cent of native species of wild bees and bumblebees are threatened with extinction – and this is in Sweden, a country with some of the most progressive environmental policies in the world. There is also no urban biodiversity policy that specifically mentions bees in Stockholm, nor do we have any projects to develop strategic networks of pollinator sites in the city as you can find with the London B-Line or Oslo's Pollinator Passage." Göran Wiklund, Founder, Bin I Stan

### So what can we do? Think Globally. Act Locally.

From conversations between residents, diplomats and organisations in Diplomatstaden a vision of **Djurgården as an official bee and pollinator-friendly zone** has been developed. Wild flower meadows and bee friendly forage could be planted, insect hotels could be built, honey bees could be housed throughout, even in the built-up areas of Norra Djurgårdsstaden and a set of official pollinator friendly management practices established.

A steering group called **Djurgården Loves Bees** made up of representatives from Bin I Stan, the British Embassy, the English Church in Stockholm, Djurgårdens Intressenter and Sweden's Beekeeping Association has been established to raise funds and implement this vision. It is hoped that this vision will pave the way for a wider debate on support for pollinators in Stockholm.

### How to achieve this vision?

#### Step 1 – Raise Local Awareness of Bees and Pollinators

In order to take the first step to achieving this vision, the residents of Diplomatstaden, the International community of spouses of diplomats in Stockholm and Djurgården Loves Bees supporters have organised a series of fundraising 'walks and talks' to raise money to place the first bee hive in the grounds of the English Church, in the heart of Diplomatstaden. **This step was achieved on 15th October 2017.**

#### Step 2 – Consult with key park Stakeholders and Green Land Managers

Meetings have been held between Bin I Stan, Östermalms stadsdelsförvaltning, Länsstyrelsen and members of Kungliga Djurgården Förvaltning (KDF). In addition to this, we have met with Djurgårdens Intressenter and members of Ekoparken, who work or have properties in the park, to discuss the project, how they can be involved and to gain support for the wider vision.

"KDF is pleased to support this worthwhile and far sighted bee campaign. It is clear that bees are under threat through loss of habitat, use of pesticides, reduction of local pollinator plant species in particular. Yet we are dependent on bees for much of our food production in Europe. As a high profile park, we can play a key role creating suitable bee habitats and educating visitors about the important role of bees and pollinators. To kickstart the project, KDF has agreed to fund the maintenance of a bee hive in the Djurgården park this summer. Bees need our help." **Gunnar Björkman, Chief of Parks, KDF**

### **Step 3 – Commission a mapping exercise of Djurgården and review of current land management practices and how they impact pollinators**

A mapping exercise of land management practices including an analysis of how to create sustainable habitats, biotopes, and pollinator passages for insects and to increase the park's biodiversity and strengthen its ecological credentials. **This step was completed on the 19 October 2017.**

In the longer term, it is hoped that by designating this important royal ecopark as a pollinator friendly zone we can create a 'show case' of good practice which can serve as a model for other parks and cities in Sweden.

### **Step 4– Design 'show case' bee hives and insect hotels for Nationalstadsparken**

We are currently exploring ideas for innovative 'Djurgården beehive' and 'Djurgården Insect hotel' designs with architects.

### **Step 5– Designate the park as Stockholm's first bee and pollinator park and involve all stakeholders in the implementation of our vision**

The steering committee of Djurgården Loves Bees will present recommendations and funding proposals to the council of Nationalstadsparken in December.

### **Djurgården Loves Bees Project Leaders**

**Göran Wiklund**, Founder Bin i Stan  
**Lasse Helander**, Ledarmot Förbundsstyrelsen, Sveriges Biodlares Riksförbund  
**Camilla Zedendahl**, VD Djurgården's Intressenter  
**Sharon Cairns, Jenny Palmer, Graham Padmore** British Embassy, Stockholm  
**Nick Howe**, Chaplain, English Church in Stockholm  
**Claire Wigg**, VD ZeroMission  
**Håkan Emilson**, Sustainability consultant, U&We

### **Djurgården Loves Bees Official Supporters**

American Club in Stockholm  
Association of Diplomats in Sweden  
British Embassy, Stockholm  
Diplomatic Spouses Club of Stockholm  
GA Design International, London  
International Women's Club in Stockholm  
Kungliga Djurgårdens Förvaltning  
Östermalms stadsdelsförvaltning  
Swedish-British Society  
The English Church in Stockholm

Mrs Eva Swartz Grimaldi and Mr Salvatore Grimaldi  
Mrs Denise Persson and Mr Stefan Persson

**For More information visit :** [www.binistan.nu](http://www.binistan.nu)  
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