



To Members of Kirby Muxloe Parish Council

You are summoned to attend a meeting of **Kirby Muxloe Parish Council** to be held at the **Parish Council, Station Road, Kirby Muxloe, Leicester, LE9 2EN** on **Tuesday 28th June 2022** commencing at **7 pm** for the transaction of the below business.

R. Atkinson  
Parish Clerk

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022

Parishioners and Press are most welcome to attend.

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### AGENDA

1. **Chairman's Welcome**
2. **To receive apologies for absence**
3. **To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests to any matter pertaining to the agenda and to consider dispensations**
4. **To confirm the minutes/closed minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022 and the minutes of the annual meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2022**
5. **To receive a Report from Leicestershire County Council**  
(15 minutes are set aside)

6. **To receive a Report from Blaby District Council**  
(15 minutes are set aside)
7. **To receive a Newsletter from Leicestershire Police**
8. **Public Participation**  
(15 minutes are set aside for members of the public to raise issues and ask questions)
9. **To note the intention to co-opt and to vote on nominations**
10. **Clerks Report**
  - i. To verify all payments made since the previous meeting
  - ii. To verify and authorise the Payments Schedule
  - iii. To verify Bank Reconciliations
  - iv. To verify Income and Expenditure to date
11. **To provide an update on/note**
  - i. Kirby Meadows development
  - ii. The Byways, 11 Court Close, Kirby Muxloe
  - iii. The Local Plan
  - iv. Barry Drive 'Rat Run'
12. **To appoint a Representative to Kirby Muxloe Village Hall**
13. **To receive a report from Representatives to Outside Bodies:**
  - i. Kirby Muxloe Library and Community Hub
  - ii. Progress with Lubbesthorpe
14. **To note the Annual Internal Audit Report 2021/22**
15. **To approve the Annual Governance Statement**  
(Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22)
16. **To approve Accounting Statements**  
(Section 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2021/22)
17. **To discuss and consider**  
*(Permission to be gained from Kirby Muxloe Recreation Ground Charity, where required)*
  - i. A diseased tree (Recreation Ground Charity land)
  - ii. Establishing a working party for the Conservation Area
  - iii. Management of Glenfield Lane Wildlife Verge and promotion on Council's website
  - iv. Website management
  - v. Parking issues on Main Street

18. **To consider gaining quotation/s for**  
*(Permission to be gained from Kirby Muxloe Recreation Ground Charity, where required)*
  - i. A plaque commemorating the gift of the recreation ground (Recreation Ground Charity land)
  - ii. Line marking a Pickleball court
  - iii. Restoring the two Village signs
19. **To note any other business**  
(This item should only be used to register future agenda items or items that are solely for information only. No issues requiring a decision or with a financial implication can be raised)
20. **To confirm the date and time of next meeting**

**PROPOSED FOR CLOSED SESSION**

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972 ss100 and 102, members of the public and press are likely to be excluded from the meeting at this point due to the confidential nature of the business

21. **To receive an update on Freedom of Information Requests and to discuss and consider associated matters**
22. **To receive an update on Staffing and to discuss and consider associated matters**





**Leicestershire  
Police**  
Protecting our communities

## Leicester Forest East, Kirby Muxloe and Glenfield Newsletter

June 2022

### News

## Appeal for witnesses to fatal M1 collision.

Detectives from the force's Serious Collision Investigation Unit (SCIU) are appealing for motorists with dashcams to come forward following a fatal collision on the M1.

At around 6.45pm yesterday (Tuesday 31 May) emergency services were called to a stretch of the southbound motorway between junctions 22 and 21a, following a report a pedestrian had been struck by a heavy goods vehicle.

Officers attended but the man – who is in his 40s – was pronounced dead at the scene. The road was closed for several hours while further enquiries were undertaken at the scene.

No-one has been arrested in connection with the incident.

Detective Constable Kasie Carter, from the SCIU, said: "While we have spoken to a number of people already, I would ask anyone who saw the collision occur to come forward.

"I'm particularly keen to speak to any motorists with a dashcam in their vehicle or anyone who saw the man prior to the collision. Any information you have, no matter how insignificant you think it is, could help."

You can pass on information by visiting <https://www.leics.police.uk/ro/report/rti/rti-beta-2.1/report-a-road-traffic-incident/> and quoting reference 22\*312707.

Alternatively call 101.

### More News from Leicestershire Police

Further current news from Leicestershire Police can be viewed by visiting our website - <https://leics.police.uk/news-appeals>

### Crime in your area

<https://www.police.uk/pu/your-area/leicestershire-police/leicester-forest-east-kirby-muxloe-and-glenfield/> is a website that provides crime statistics where you live.

Follow us on Twitter @blabypolice or Facebook /blabypolice

**CRIME UPDATES - #YouSaidWeDid** -Please find below updates from your local beat team in relation to the priorities you have raised via Neighbourhood Link:

**You Said – Anti-Social Behaviour**

**We Did** – In recent weeks we have seen an increase in vandalism on some of our parks in Glenfield. CCTV has been captured and those responsible are in the process of being identified.

**You Said – Vehicle Crime**

**We Did** – 1 Person has been arrested recently from a stolen vehicle in Glenfield. We are encouraging people to report any vehicle that you feel are out of place.

**You Said – Residential Burglary**

**We Did** – This month we have seen burglaries occur in Glenfield and Leicester Forest East PC Jodie and PCSO Calum have been conducting patrols into the early hours. We have also had 1 person arrested in relation to burglaries in Glenfield and the surrounding area. The investigation continues into these arrests.

**You Said – Road Safety**

**We Did** – Over the last month the beat team have been assisted by our police volunteers in conducting speed checks across the beat in locations highlighted to us via Neighbourhood Link and also from the parish councils. To have your say on Road Safety keep an eye out for surveys that are sent out via Neighbourhood Link.

**#InYourCommunity - Beat Surgeries –**

12/06/2022 – 11am-12pm – Morrisons, Station Road, Glenfield

09/07/2022 – 11am – 12pm- Kirby Muxloe Library

06/08/2022 – 10:30am – 11:30am – Leicester Forest East Library

## Neighbourhood Link – Have you signed up?

We want to encourage as many people as possible to sign up to our community messaging system, Neighbourhood Link. You will receive regular emails keeping you up to date about local policing issues, good news stories, crime prevention advice, witness appeals and local events.

It is very easy to do and free! Register at [www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk](http://www.neighbourhoodlink.co.uk)

We are always happy to hear from you. Please email us at [hinckleyandblaby.npa@leics.police.uk](mailto:hinckleyandblaby.npa@leics.police.uk) or call 101.

## Your Beat Team

PC 4706  
Jodie Neal



PC 4258  
Dave Gilbody



PCSO 6641  
Calum Loades



PCSO 6138  
David Goss





**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF KIRBY MUXLOE PARISH COUNCIL**

Name (inc. title): MR MARK RILEY

Address (inc. postcode):

KIRBY MUXLOE  
LE9

Telephone number:

Email: @live.com

Occupation: Retired

*If appointed, some of the personal data shown will be stored on computer systems which are registered under The Data Protection Act 2018*

**Please give details of any involvement or connection with Local Authorities (at present or in the past):**

NONE

**Please provide some brief background details as to why you wish to become a Parish Councillor. Please let us know what skills or experience you would be able to bring to the Parish Council. (This information will possibly become public knowledge) Additional pages may be attached.**

Please see attached



Please provide some brief background details as to why you wish to become a Parish Councillor. Please let us know what skills or experience you would be able to bring to the Parish Council.

Short answer:

To try with others to make a positive impact on the village

Longer answer:

I have lived in the village since 1989 (bar 6 months in Groby in 2004) so have seen change happen both for the best and maybe the not so good.

I worked in the NHS for 17 years (1985 - 2002) as a Learning Disability nurse. Through that I worked with those needing care, their families, some people on the wards, some managers and some non-NHS people, becoming familiar with seeing 'the big picture' while also having to develop day to day tasks and policies.

I then worked for 14 years (2006 - 2020) for a 100% remote working company - <https://automattic.com> - and did Support for any users of <https://wordpress.com>. Working remotely meant having the drive and motivation to do the job (working from home), but also having to communicate with colleagues with different skillsets using text and video.

So in both the above I was very much working with people every day with shared goals, shared tasks but also individual tasks.

I was my wife's carer from around 2002 until her death in 2018. We had been together 35 years, married 33. That gave me insight into what carers face both daily and with systems "designed to help", what disabled people have to deal with and the importance of getting things done properly.

In 2019 I noticed the Library website was not looking too good, so given my 16+ years of experience with WordPress I offered to improve it. I joined the trustees of the charity that run the library and my main role is that of web site admin. I purchased the domain name and the web hosting transferring both to the charity. I then created email accounts for all roles so archiving and accountability became the norm and am working with the Secretary to create an archiving solution for documents, images and communications for future use if needed. I have also ensured that if I disappeared from the planet one day that all online accounts can be accessed properly. Total cost to the Library is around \$10 USD/year.

When I left Automattic, coincidentally just as covid became a huge issue, my overall goal was 'to be useful'. Covid stopped that, but that was then. It's time for me to try something

more.

I would like to think that by joining the parish council I can be useful. Quite how I am not sure, but as elections are not for a year it gives time for me to learn, time for existing councillors to evaluate me and if I can help spread workload, I'm happy to do that. Do I stay and ask to be elected? I have no idea!

Signed:

M R. O'g

Date:

25. 4. 22

Please also sign the following declaration to indicate that you have read and understood the regulations.

**All applicants are asked to note that:**

1. It is not possible to guarantee that you will be appointed;
2. A Parish Councillor who, without the consent of the Parish Council has failed to attend full Parish Council meetings and/or Committee meetings for a continuous period of six months (from the date of the first meeting missed), shall be disqualified.

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

**I declare that I am not disqualified from serving as a Member of Kirby Muxloe Parish Council and that:**

- I am** aged 18 or over at the date of this election or appointment;
- I am** a UK or commonwealth citizen / a citizen of the Republic of Ireland / a citizen of another Member state of the European Union;
- I am** an elector of the parish, or;
- I have** for the whole of the previous 12 months occupied (as owner or tenant) land or other premises in the parish, or; during the previous 12 months have worked in the parish (as your principal or only place of work), or; for the whole of the previous 12 months lived in the parish or within three miles of the parish boundary.

You do **NOT** have to be connected to a political party.

**All Parish Councillors are required to adhere to the Code of Conduct.**

Signed:




Date:

25.4.22

**Thank you for your interest**

ITEM 11.ii

1. *I have a question, as spring is appearing and I have to do more and more watering, could I get an outside tap fitted,? I could get a plumber myself, and pay for everything. Tap  is really needed, Because I found taking water from bathroom is very inconvenient.*
2. I sent a contractor to take a look and the washing machine and he has responded with the below:

*Hi unfortunately the drum has collapsed and more cost effective to replace New washing machine fitted £375. Remove the old unit dispose of along with all rubbish.*



ITEM  
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Lubbesthorpe Impact Group Notes for Council Meeting June 2022

Meeting held 18th May 2022

696 houses built by 31 March 2022 600 health centre kicks in

In February Health Centre position moved nearer to school  
44 houses now need re-siting as a result

Nearby there is to be a 66-bed care home

Recent meeting of Clinical Commissioning group and 3 members of public attended zoom meeting. These are involved in helping to them move from Forest House to Lubbesthorpe

Developers have to provide a plan for transporting New Lubbesthorpe residents to Health Centre but this does not include patients from neighbouring parishes

Group to ask Blaby how work is progressing against the original plans  
Group asked for map of builders plots  
Have target dates been amended due Covid

Also to ask Blaby about S106 contribution money - how is their proportion on monitoring being spent and have the contributions to other bodies been allocated

What are our County Councillors proposing for the £25,000 from Highways

KMPC tasked with writing to Lee Breckon re his comments about saying he will request a review of the Lubbesthorpe dEvelopment progress

CIIs N Beck  
19/5/22

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## Lubbesthorpe Impacts Group

### Notes of the Group meeting on 30.03.22

Attendance: Cllrs Anthea Ambrose, Chris Frost, John O'Sullivan, Norma Beck, Bob Waterton

1. Apologies: Cllr Malcolm Fox
2. Notes of the meeting on 02.02.22: these were agreed as a correct record.
3. BDC meeting with Parishes, 02.03.22.

This meeting, facilitated by BDC (John Richardson) and LRALC (Jake Atkinson), was the first of a new series of meetings with Parishes this year; this one was for Parish Councillors and Parish Clerks; the next meeting on this basis will be on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September (5.00pm-6.30pm). In addition, there will be two 'operational' meetings, with Clerks only, on 25<sup>th</sup> May and 30<sup>th</sup> November (10.00am to 11.30am).

Bob had attended the meeting on 02.03.22 and reported that there were presentations from LRALC (mostly about training), John Richardson, BDC Planning Department and BDC officers involved in Neighbourhood Services. A 'Joint Charter' produced by North West Leicestershire District Council and the Town and Parish Councils of North West Leicestershire (on the principle of 'Parishes as equals') had been mentioned; Bob had obtained a copy of this Charter and had circulated it to members of this Group.

#### 4. Information update:

##### 4.1 BDC data: BDC website shows 664 homes occupied as at 31.01.22

Louise Hryniw and John Crane had responded that there were no updates they could give at this point

##### 4.2 S106:

The proposed Health Centre's location has been moved to Tay Road.

S106 allocations for monitoring still to be asked about.

##### 4.3 Highways:

The notes of the meeting and presentation on 23.02.22 had been circulated. Members agreed that this was a constructive meeting but the issues raised will need to be followed up.

##### 4.4 Health care provision:

The petition against the move of the Forest House surgery to Lubbesthorpe had been considered at a further meeting of Leicestershire County Council's Health Scrutiny

Committee with representatives of the Clinical Commissioning Group present. The CCG agreed to review the loss of healthcare provision in the area (but not to stop the move of the Forest House surgery) and will respond at a further Health Scrutiny meeting (1<sup>st</sup> June?). LCC Councillor Amanda Hack had provided an update in Braunstone Life and a copy of this had been circulated to members of this Group to assist with informing petitioners of the current situation.

4.5 Air Quality Monitoring (BDC): Nothing to report at this stage.

5. Next steps:

5.1 Possible further correspondence on the Local Plan.

Follow-up on Highways issues.

Ask about BDC S106 Monitoring.

6. A.o.b.

Discussion on transport alternatives in relation to Lubbesthorpe (for example, Arriva Click, Go-Travel-Solutions).

7. Date of next meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (subsequently changed to 18<sup>th</sup> May).

ITEM 17.i

Two contractors have inspected the tree concerned.

COMPANY A:

The tree is alive and does not need removing in their professional opinion

COMPANY B:

*The tree is still alive, hard to tell its full condition until all of the leaves are out to see how sparse it is, there are some minor defects within the canopy and with it being a horse chestnut, its more than likely that it will have a limited life span, due a tree disease that's affecting most horse chestnuts across the country. I was told by the chap in the school that a tree report, deemed that the tree needed to be removed, have you got a copy of that, it would be good to see what the consultant has said about the tree before making a decision?*

The Tree Report dated 28.10.19 was forwarded.

*It doesn't give much more information than I already know to be honest, there are some small pockets of decay, whether or not it should be removed now or in the future is the council's decision, obviously with it being next to the footpath and within the school playground, if anything was to break or fall, the responsibility would fall on the council, for not following the tree report.*

*Realistically, if the council really don't want to get the tree removed, you would have to have another tree report carried out to prove otherwise.*

In the meantime, School has requested that the contractors confirm in writing so they can cover that off from a H & S point of view.

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Kirby Muxloe Parish Council  
Parish Council Office, Station Road  
Kirby Muxloe  
Leicestershire  
LE9 2EN

**Quotation**

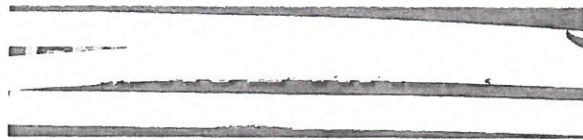
**Site Address** Kirby Muxloe Primary School, Barwell Road, Kirby Muxloe, LE9 2AA

Item No	Item	Work Description	Value
1	Horse chestnut tree in the corner of the playground	Remove tree down to ground level and remove waste offsite for green waste recycling.	£800.00
2	Stump grinding	Grind out Stump 06-12inches below ground level and backfill with arisings.	£400.00
			Total Value: £1,200.00
			Vat(20%): £240.00
			Total Inc Vat: £1,440.00

# Tree Survey Report

Kirby Muxloe Primary School  
Barwell Road Kirby Muxloe LE9 2AA

28/10/2019



## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 **Qualifications and Experience:** Paul Odom has had 40 years experience of arboriculture and tree management, he has been the head of George Walker (tree care) Ltd (Arboricultural association approved Contractors) for the past 14 years and has attended training courses in visual tree assessment (VTA) and was assessed in May 2007 by Prof. Dr Claus Matheck to have attained the advanced level of technical competence of a VTA practitioner with elite training.
- 1.2 **Background:** This survey has been carried out after receiving instruction from Mr I Holmes of YMD Boon to carry out a health & Safety survey of the trees within the grounds of the School.

## 2. SCOPE

- 2.1 The survey is carried out from ground level, where trees are covered in Ivy defects could be hidden from view and a recommendation will be made to sever the Ivy and leave to die off before a re-inspection can be carried out.
- 2.2 Trees not recorded in this survey were considered not to require any work at this time.
- 2.3 Trees are functional biological systems subject to unpredictable influences of the climate, and no tree can ever be declared safe. While every effort has been made to detect defects within the tree, no guarantee can be given for future failure. The recommendations given are to reduce any future failure occurring, trees can appear sound but can fail during inclement weather, for instance high winds can result in the shedding of twigs and small branches, while storm force winds can result in the uprooting of trees.
- 2.4 Tree rooting characteristics and soils are both enormously variable as are their interactions. This makes attempts to quantify subsidence risk impossible. No effort has been made to assess subsidence risk potential nor should any be construed.
- 2.5 The site visit was carried out on 28/10/2019 by Paul Odom.
- 2.6 The weather was Dry, overcast with good visibility.

### 3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 **Trees subject to statutory controls:** No attempt has been made to establish the existence of Tree Preservation Orders or Conservation Areas and these should be checked with the local authority before any works are carried out, further advice can be sought from your local authority.
- 3.2 **Trees & Wildlife:** Trees can be home to nesting birds and bats, these are protected by law and care should be taken before works are carried out to avoid disturbing any wildlife.
- 3.3 **Tree Works:** Care should be taken when hiring contractors to carry out any works; the Arboricultural Association Register of Approved Contractors is available at [www.trees.org.uk](http://www.trees.org.uk). All appointed contractors should carry out the works to BS 3998 2010 Recommendations for Tree Works

Date: 28/10/2019 Client / Site: Kirby Muxloe Primary School, Barwell Road, Kirby Muxloe, LE9 2AA Survey

Tree Species	Age Class	Condition	Observations	Recommendations	Priority No	Class
T1 Silver Birch	M	Average	Growing very close to the school building also the roots are be given to its removal to prevent further damage			GM
T2 Horse Chestnut	M	Poor	The tree has several decay pockets and looks to be in decline little future potential	Fell the tree		High
T4 Hawthorn	M	Dead	Dead Tree	Fell the tree		High
G1 Various M Poor / Dead			The trees are growing in the neighbouring property they are in The neighbours should be approached and informed of the Urgent poor condition with one particular tree that has been dead for trees condition with a view to them being made safe some while. Should it fail there is a possibility it could fall into the school grounds			

Age Class: **EY** = Early Young below 10yrs. **Y** = Young 10 – 20yrs. **EM** = Early Mature 20 – 40yrs. **M** = Mature 40 – 100yrs. **LM** = Late Mature 100yrs +. **V** = Veteran Old tree of special interest.  
 Condition: **Good**: Tree of good form, good vitality & structure. **Average**: In reasonable condition may have minor defects. **Poor**: Poor vitality and/or structurally poor. **Dead**: Dead tree no sign of life.  
 Priority: **Urgent**: Works required immediately (that day) to make tree safe or guard the site. **High**: To be done as soon as practically possible. **Moderate**: To be done in the next 12 months. **LP** = Low ground level to the top of the tree. **Spread**: The crown measured North to West & East to West & an average of the two recorded. **None**: No Works Height: Measured from





Kirby Muxloe County Primary School, Kirby Muxloe Primary School, Barwell Road, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, LE9 2AA



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## WILDFLOWER VERGE PROJECT



### Kirby, Glenfield Lane Verge Survey and Management Recommendations

Leicestershire County Council is working with a wide range of Parish Councils and local communities to change the management of selected road verges in order to improve their biodiversity value. The Leicestershire wildlife charity NatureSpot is supporting the project by undertaking ecological surveys of the verges, meeting residents and parish councillors on site and promoting these sites as featured Wild Places on its award-winning website.

Details of this verge together with the species recorded during the survey can be viewed at:  
[www.naturespot.org.uk/Kirby Muxloe Glenfield Lane Verge](http://www.naturespot.org.uk/Kirby_Muxloe_Glenfield_Lane_Verge)



Mowing of all verges by the County Council has ceased for those that are participating in the project and management responsibility now lies with the parish council.

#### **SURVEY**

The verge surveys are primarily focussed on the grasses and wildflowers to be found growing in the verge, though casual sightings of other wildlife may also be recorded. It is important to identify the grass and wildflower species already present in order to assess the quality of the grassland habitat before deciding on ongoing management.

Where a hedge is present at the back of the verge, or when individual trees are present, these species are included in the survey as they generally add to the wildlife value. The shade and shelter they provide often supports species of plants and animals that prefer these conditions, adding to the overall diversity.

The species listed in appendix 1 includes all the plants and animals identified during the survey. Any species that are used as indicators when assessing Local Wildlife Site designation are highlighted in green. These species, plus other desirable meadow plant species, are given a score that enables the verge as a whole to be rated as to its current quality as meadow grassland. This score helps us to assess the quality as low, medium or high and to provide management recommendations based on this.

It is important to note that the meadow score and quality rating only refers to the plant composition and not the overall biodiversity value of the verge. All verges left to grow provide excellent wildlife habitat compared to the short-mown alternative.

All species records from the survey have been submitted through NatureSpot's website and have been checked by an expert. The records now form part of the Leicestershire and Rutland species database and are shared with local and national recording schemes, the Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Records Centre and the National Biodiversity Network.

#### **SURVEY DATE**

The survey of this verge was carried on on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May by David Nicholls (NatureSpot).

#### **SURVEY FINDINGS**

The verge is of a reasonable size and approximately 4m wide. It is backed by a natural hedge which includes Hawthorn, Holly, Elder, Ash and Wild Cherry. The shady border at the base of the hedge adds to the diversity by supporting shade-tolerant plants such as Wood Avens and Cow Parsley.

The survey revealed a number of interesting plant species that are often found in quality meadow. These include Cuckoo Flower, Meadow Buttercup and Red Clover. The overall species number was 56 flora species which represents a significant diversity for a verge of this size.

#### **SURVEY SUMMARY**

Floral diversity: **56**

Local Wildlife Site indicator species: **6**

Meadow quality score: **20**

Meadow quality: **High**

#### **MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATION**

This verge has high quality grassland with a good species diversity and which also provides valuable wildlife habitat due to the tall and dense vegetation. It should be managed solely by altering the mowing regime with no mowing between April and August. The verge can be cut just once in September and the cuttings should be removed. Over a few years this will reduce soil fertility and encourage a more diverse and flowery grassland habitat. If desired, the verge could be mown between September and March but this isn't necessary. The 60cm visibility strip along the road edge can be mown regularly.

The verge is grass-rich so it could be helpful to introduce Yellow Rattle which should help to reduce grass domination and promote the growth of more wildflowers. Seeds should be added in small areas in Autumn, scraping the ground with a rake to expose some bare soil. A few areas no more than 1m<sup>2</sup> should be sufficient if this option is pursued.

The hedge provides excellent additional habitat. It was noted that in places this has been trimmed however. Formal trimming of the hedge is inappropriate and will prevent the hedge plants from producing flowers and berries. It is good practice to only trim in winter and to only do this every two years.

Appendix 2 describes management options in more detail.

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### Appendix 1 – species recorded during the survey

Any highlighted in green are notable as indicators of quality meadow grassland. Those highlighted in dark green are indicator species for Local Wildlife Sites designation.

Taxon Group	Species	Common
Wildflowers	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow
Wildflowers	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley
Wildflowers	<i>Aphanes arvensis</i>	Parsley-piert
Wildflowers	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy
Wildflowers	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower
Wildflowers	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	Common Mouse-ear
Wildflowers	<i>Cerastium glomeratum</i>	Sticky Mouse-ear
Wildflowers	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Spear Thistle
Wildflowers	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	Common Stork's-bill
Wildflowers	<i>Erophila verna</i>	Common Whitlowgrass
Wildflowers	<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers
Wildflowers	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	Cut-leaved Crane's-bill
Wildflowers	<i>Geranium molle</i>	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
Wildflowers	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	Hedgerow Crane's-bill
Wildflowers	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens
Wildflowers	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Bristly Oxtongue
Wildflowers	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed
Wildflowers	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Common Cat's-ear
Wildflowers	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Common Ragwort
Wildflowers	<i>Lamium album</i>	White Dead-nettle
Wildflowers	<i>Lapsana communis</i>	Nipplewort
Wildflowers	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	Black Medick
Wildflowers	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain
Wildflowers	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	Creeping Cinquefoil
Wildflowers	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup
Wildflowers	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup
Wildflowers	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel
Wildflowers	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	Broad-leaved Dock
Wildflowers	<i>Scorzoneroideis autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit
Wildflowers	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	Prickly Sow-thistle
Wildflowers	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	Dandelion agg.
Wildflowers	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	Lesser Trefoil
Wildflowers	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover
Wildflowers	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover
Wildflowers	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle
Wildflowers	<i>Veronica persica</i>	Common Field-speedwell
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly

Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Prunus avium</i>	Wild Cherry
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Quercus robur</i>	Pedunculate Oak
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble agg.
Trees, Shrubs & Climbers	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Anisantha sterilis</i>	Barren Brome
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i> subsp. <i>hordeaceus</i>	Common Soft-brome
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Poa annua</i>	Annual Meadow-grass
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	Smooth Meadow-grass
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass
Grasses, Rushes & Sedges	<i>Schedonorus arundinaceus</i>	Tall Fescue
Bugs	<i>Philaenus spumarius</i>	Common Froghopper
Bugs	<i>Psyllopsis fraxini</i> agg.	
Birds	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	House Sparrow
Birds	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Song Thrush
Beetles	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>	7 Spot Ladybird
Bees, Wasps, Ants	<i>Lasius niger</i>	Small Black Ant
Woodlice, Crustaceans	<i>Porcellio scaber</i>	Common Rough Woodlouse
Slugs & Snails	<i>Deroceras reticulatum</i>	Netted Slug
Mosses & Liverworts	<i>Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus</i>	Springy Turf-moss
Hoverflies	<i>Episyrphus balteatus</i>	Marmalade Hoverfly
Hoverflies	<i>Eupeodes luniger</i>	
Hoverflies	<i>Syrirta pipiens</i>	Thick-legged Hoverfly
Hoverflies	<i>Xanthogramma pedissequum sensu lato</i>	

## Appendix 2 - Management of Verges

### VERGES AS WILDLIFE HABITAT

Grassland road verges represent a habitat that has suffered a devastating decline over the last century. 97% of traditional wildflower meadows have disappeared in Britain so the plants and animals that rely on this habitat have very few places left where they can thrive. Road verges, if appropriately managed, can help to reverse this trend and make an important contribution to supporting local biodiversity.

Regularly mown verges offer very little to wildlife. Few plants are able to flower so there is little food for nectar-feeding insects such as bees and butterflies. The exposed ground dries out creating a very inhospitable environment for most invertebrates. Without these creatures the food chain collapses so there are fewer birds and mammals such as hedgehogs.

The answer is simple, allow the grassland verge to grow. Taller vegetation offers cover, feeding opportunities and a range of micro-habitats that are not available in regularly mown grass. In addition, many more plants can flower and offer nectar to pollinators such as bees and butterflies.

In general, the more species of grasses and wildflowers that grow in the verge, the better it is for wildlife. Many insect species are specialised to feed on just one or two types of plant so the more diverse the flora the more wildlife it supports. The verge surveys have shown that in most cases there is a surprisingly diverse flora already present. By simply allowing the verge flora to grow during the Spring and Summer they will produce a valuable wildlife-rich grassland habitat.

### MOWING REGIME

The simplest and most important action is to stop mowing between April and August. This allows the grassland to grow, flower and set seed. In early September it should then be cut short and the cuttings left for a few days to dry and drop their seeds.

Many mowing machines will struggle to cut long vegetation so a strimmer or a reciprocating blade mower is probably needed. Traditionally meadows were cut by hand with a scythe so this could be an option if anyone is keen to learn this skill.

Whilst an annual cut will help the plant diversity it does deprive other wildlife of important cover and over-wintering sites. The ideal solution is therefore to only cut part of the verge each year leaving the other half as tall vegetation, then alternating the areas the following year.

### REMOVING THE CUTTINGS

The second most important action is to remove the cuttings after a few days. This is vital to prevent the build up of a mat of dried stems which will smother the smaller plants. It will also enrich the soil as it gradually decomposes, the opposite of what is desirable!

The types of plants growing on the verge is largely determined by the soil. Most verges are rich in nutrients, particular nitrogen, which allows large plants such as Cow Parsley, Nettle, Docks and False Oat-grass to dominate. Whilst these species do support a lot of wildlife, they also out-compete the smaller species leading to a reduced floral diversity overall. By removing the cuttings the soil fertility will gradually fall and a wider range of flower and grass species will naturally develop over several years.

Disposing of the cut vegetation can be a challenge. Once dry it is effectively hay so is ideal food and bedding for horses, rabbits and other pets. Local residents with these animals may be keen to collect the



hay from the verge, especially if raked into a convenient pile. Failing this it can be composted simply by piling it into a heap. It is unlikely that the verge itself will be suitable for this so it is probably necessary to find a suitable site nearby. The cuttings can also be taken to your nearest Waste and Recycling Site for treatment as 'green waste'.

Note: if the verge contains Ragwort, it may be worth hand-pulling these before cutting so they do not get mixed into the hay.

### **TO SEED OR NOT TO SEED?**

Whilst it may be possible to add more floral diversity through seeding and/or plug planting, this is an expensive and labour-intensive process that is not guaranteed to work. Many species added artificially tend not to thrive and, in many cases, disappear within 2-3 years. The most cost effective, sustainable and generally most successful way to improve grassland habitat for wildlife is simply to change the mowing regime.

If seeding is desirable, care should be taken to source the seed from a reputable source with a mix of native wildflowers and grasses suitable for the soil. We strongly recommend using Emorsgate's [EM2 meadow mix](#) (4g per sq metre). To add some first year colour, mix in seed from the [EC1 cornfield mix](#) (2g per sq metre). Note that the cornfield species are annuals and will largely disappear after flowering in year 1, to be replaced by the perennials in the main EM2 mix.

To prepare the ground for seeding, the verge should be mown, then scarified (partially disturbed to expose some bare soil). This can be done by vigorous raking. Chemical herbicides should not be used. Seeding should take place in Autumn as many seeds require the cold chill of winter to mature ready for germination in the Spring.

Yellow Rattle is a common plant in many wildflower meadows and is generally desirable as it parasitises grasses so they weaken and become less dominant, leaving space for more wildflowers. This species isn't included in the seed mix so is best obtained separately. It needs to be sown fresh in Autumn. It doesn't usually do well as a plug plant because it needs grasses to feed on as it grows.

### **PLUGS AND BULBS**

An alternative to seeding is to plant 'plugs' of pre-grown wildflower seedlings into a small bare area of the verge in Spring. This can be easier and more effective than sowing seed. Black Knapweed, Lady's Bedstraw and Ox-eye Daisy are all relatively easy to establish as plug plants.

There are hardly any native meadow species that grow from bulbs and it is generally not appropriate to plant any bulbs in the verges. Daffodils, Hyacinths and the like are garden plants and do not have a place in a wildflower meadow.

### **FURTHER HELP**

If you would like any help or advice with managing your verge then please contact:

Roseanna Burton, Leicestershire County Council: [Roseanna.Burton@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Roseanna.Burton@leics.gov.uk)

David Nicholls, NatureSpot: [dnicholls@naturespot.org.uk](mailto:dnicholls@naturespot.org.uk)

