

Parish Council Meeting 19th September 2024

Jubilee Meadow Makers Working Group update



1. Habitat management

Further work took place to control Ragwort in line with the policy approved by the Parish Council.

In August the weed suppressant membrane put down to create the last section of the intended wildflower area was lifted and the area lightly harrowed in preparation for delivery of another batch of "green hay" provided at no charge by Norfolk Wildlife Trust (NWT). This batch was sourced from an established meadow at Wreningham together with some we hand-cut from the established area of our Meadow. The ongoing support of the NWT has been invaluable.

The annual late Summer cut was carried out by the grounds contractor Bob from Ribbonsdale whose continued considerate work is much appreciated. Some areas have been left uncut as wildlife 'forage' areas and refuge areas. The Meadow Makers subsequently raked-off the wildflower areas and the cycle-track mound with the arisings being left on-site.

Thanks to our arachnid enthusiast, Nathan, we have found a significant population of the once nationally scarce Wasp Spider with over 60 being counted on the Meadow.

2. Promotion

An open family event was arranged around removing the weed membrane giving the enthusiastic children a chance to see and relocate the wildlife that had been lurking under the plastic and create a new bug home. The 'green hay' day gave us a chance to celebrate our third year and the hard work of the Meadow Maker team.

Embers are expecting to have an evening trip to the Meadow on 26th September when Dave & Pauline will run a moth-trap

3. Helping Our Swifts project

We understand that Saffron have granted permission for their tenants on Long Lane to have Swift boxes installed and now that the breeding Swifts have left, we will schedule installation of the remaining boxes.

Dave Jones 15th September 2024