

Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 6 June 2023 at Leek Wootton Village Hall

Present: Councillors Coates (Chair), Allison, Eldridge, Elsy, Kingston [arrived late], Kirkwood, D/Cllr Payne, 2 members of the public and the Clerk

1. Apologies Cllr Kingston gave apologies for being late, D/Cllr Redford and C/Cllr Redford

2. **Declarations of Interest**None

3. **Public Participation**

Two members of the Parish Environment Group presented an initiative to ask The Warwickshire to consider allowing the field north of the driveway to be made more ecologically friendly – allowing it to go wild by not mowing until July. Warwickshire Wildlife Trust would be happy to provide professional advice. Sought support and advice from the Parish Council in this regard. If this is not of interest to The Warwickshire, the Environment Group would not wish to pursue any campaign. Comparable to Parliament Piece in Kenilworth.

A discussion followed.

The Parish Council is supportive of the idea. The Chair has knowledge of the Management and would be happy to facilitate an approach to the Club.

ACTION: Chair to initiate discussion with The Warwickshire management

The Chair invited the members of the Environment Group to remain and listen to items 6 and 7 on the agenda, which are of relevance to their group.

4. Minutes

- 4.1. The minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2023 were approved and signed [Proposer: Cllr Kirkwood / Seconder: Cllr Allison].
- 4.2. To consider matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting and not included on the agenda.None

5. **Development at Woodcote (Police HQ)**

Cllr Kirkwood gave an update. Regular Friday meeting has continued. Currently WDC Planning Officers propose taking the outline planning application (W/22/1877) only to Committee on 21st/22nd, but are no longer planning to take the full application (W/22/0465) on the same date. Have not confirmed whether it might be taken in July or will be deferred further. The Planning Inspectorate [PI] has modified date for statutory instruments as part of the inquiry, but inquiry remains on the same date. WDC Planning Committee meeting is now in advance of the submission of Inquiry paperwork, so will find out decision before. [UPDATE 20/06/2023: Planning Officers' Report to WDC Planning Committee published and states, "In this case, Members are not being asked to determine the application as this is now in the hands of the Planning Inspectorate. The proposal in front of Members is for consideration of the decision that would likely have been made by the LPA if it had been in a position to formally determine the application."]

After Planning Committee meeting the Parish Council, as well as any other

interested parties, will have to decide whether they wish to be Rule 6 applicants. With regard to the Council working with Leek Wootton Focus Group [LWFG], planning advisers have been appointed to undertake a limited scope of work and

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to review the documents with a view to providing a statement of case. This is not likely to be drafted or finalised until after the WDC Planning Committee meeting, dependant on the decision of WDC.

The Council offered to pick up expense of modelling for the junction with TTC, but the LWFG has expressed preference to do this themselves with own contacts. Council may commission TTC to run any model. LWFG carried out a traffic survey between 8:00am-10:00am and 4:00pm-6:00pm this morning (06/06/2023). This will provide baseline for traffic model. Will this carry weight with the planners/PI? If carried out properly and modelling done properly, yes it will. Challenge will come if WDC decides to approve outline planning, in which case highways will be transferred to a S106 discussion to make improvements to the Anchor junction.

WCC Highways has stated that the junction will not be made 'over capacity' by the increase in numbers from the new housing, but is from a health and safety and traffic safety point of view, unsafe. Have therefore objected to the application on safety grounds, but this would ordinarily be resolved by improvement works. If this is the case, the PI would want to inspect the S106 proposed works.

Confirmation that traffic monitoring equipment that has been observed near the Anchor junction is WCC Highways, which is re-establishing the baseline of the traffic model for Kenilworth. Nothing to do with CALA or the Woodcote application.

A discussion followed.

6. Leek Wootton War Memorial Recreation Ground Car Park

The Chair circulated copies of an, 'Ecological Development Plan linked to Condition 4 of application W/21/1871... Leek Wootton Recreation Ground Car Park redevelopment project (June 2023)' [see appendix 1]

The Chairman of Leek Wootton Village Hall and the Chair asked the Planning Officer to sign off the conditions required in the planning approval – these were stated as the arboricultural method statement and bat survey. At that stage planners informed them that they were not aware of the revised plan. In a change of planning officer the new officer was not advised of the revised plan. At this stage WDC informed that a Ecological Biodiversity Net Gain Plan is now required - without it the planners would not sign off the approval.

With the help of a WCC Ecologist, who appreciated the situation and admitted that WDC should have advised the Council earlier that this was required. The Chair created the plan.

The number of trees being removed must be replaced by 0.01% more trees, hence 8 new trees and the wildflower meadow. This plan must commence within 18 months of the completion of the car park.

The Chair guided the Council through the document and its implications.

This new plan will tie into the future maintenance plans. Note the use of the phrase, "in perpetuity", which is a requirement when creating a biodiversity net gain plan.

As of today [06/06/2023] the only outstanding item is the arboricultural plan, which they will not accept on the old plan. LWVH has agreed to pay for the arboricultural consultant to do an overlay with the trees that are now remaining. Work can now go ahead on 26/06/2023.

The members of the Environment Group volunteered to take the lead on watering of new trees and looking after the bird boxes and bat boxes. The Chair was grateful for this and also discussed the maintenance contributions from the 4 organisations (LW Village Hall, LW Sports Club, The Recreation Ground Trustees and the Parish Council) also providing some funding for the plan.

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7. 'Orphaned' Plots of Land Policy

The Council agreed to adopt a policy to maintain designated 'orphaned' plots of land in the Parish at its meeting on 23/05/2023.

Areas are currently informally maintained by neighbours on an ad-hoc basis. With this policy in place the Council can budget for occasional maintenance as and when issues arise. This will be a gradual process of investigation as and when they come up.

The members of the Environment Group said they have discussed this issue.

- The members of the public left the meeting -

8. **Progress Reports for information**

8.1. The Playground (Cllr Coates)

Nothing to report

8.2. Community Speed Watch (Cllr Kingston)

Cllr Kingston will meet with the CSW resident leader next week

8.3. LW&GC Environment Group (Cllr Elsy)

Nothing to report. Next meeting 29/06/2023

8.4. Leek Wootton War Memorial Recreation Ground (Cllr Coates)

Cllr Kirkwood gave a brief report on the background to the creation of a lease or licence for the Parish Council to have rights to the car park.

A formal lease was too complicated, so a new licence has now been drafted. There are some issues, but it is a simple document that sets things out in order for the Council to undertake the redevelopment project later this month.

There are concerns with regard to the ongoing maintenance plans and the Ecological Development Plan creates an added dimension, which is not covered in the previous discussion. The licence as it currently stands requires some adjustment to take these concerns into account.

Three areas are:

- (1) the licence, which gives the Council permission to go ahead and carry out redevelopment works and maintain,
- (2) agreement between the parties that are going to contribute money towards ongoing maintenance works, and
- (3) undertaking the ecological development plan, which covers more than the car park area and requires agreement from the Trustees and other parties contributing towards it.

The Chair asked Cllr Kirkwood to put his thoughts down and they can be communicated to the Trustees.

ACTION: Cllr Kirkwood to compose response to Trustees

Cllr Kirkwood asked who will sign-off interim payments to the contractor. The Chair agreed that it would be himself and the Clerk, on the advice of the Agent (Chair of LWVH). The RUCIS grant has been approved and will be paid by refunding paid invoices (but they will discuss if this is a problem), the PWLB money has been received, which will ease the cash-flow on the project.

8.5. Leek Wootton Village Hall (Cllr Kirkwood)

The Chair confirmed to Cllr Eldridge that Cllr Kirkwood has volunteered to take on the Village Hall liaison role. Handover to be handled between Cllrs Eldridge and Kirkwood.

ACTION: CIIr Eldridge to hand over role, papers, etc to CIIr Kirkwood ACTION: CIIr Eldridge to inform the LWVH Secretary of change

A brief discussion followed.

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8.6. Leek Wootton Sports Club (Cllr Allison)

New committee is in place. Looking for a Secretary. Sub-Committees have been set up (bar, finance, social & events, marketing & communication and maintenance).

Objective to shift to becoming a community hub, clubs, meetings, events, some small business facility e.g. physio. Challenge is not putting good money after bad when it comes to building maintenance.

Will be replacing outside table benches shortly.

Back end of the year plan to create a 3-5 year strategy, including fundraising for a new facility.

8.7. Other

8.7.1. Parish Walk-about

The Chair suggested a walk to Gaveston's Cross. Suggested meeting at the Church and taking footpath through to North Woodloes from the golf course. Suggested a date in the summer.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate some dates

8.8. Community Engagement

8.8.1. 10/06/2023: LW&GC Parish Summer Fête

Viva Arts asking about car parking for dancers' parents – overflow, or could park at the Church and walk up.

The Clerk noted an email received an email today asking to bring 'old time swing-boats'. Cllr Kingston has been in contact with her. This is a business, so a discussion followed about charges for commercial stallholders. Offered a fixed fee or 15% of the takings. Agreed to £15 towards costs. For non-commercial stallholders there will be no fee this year. Optional donation for future years.

A discussion took place about community -v- commercial hook-a-duck and it was decided to only invite the swing-boats this year.

A general discussion about logistics followed.

8.9. Community Maintenance:

WCC Highways (Cllr Kirkwood)

Highways have been doing some road drainage improvements towards the south of Leek Wootton, hence lights. No updates on any of the proposed jetting / repair works.

Cllr Elsy forwarded hear'say information that Highways cannot do anything further about the flooding in Hill Wootton. Cllr Kirkwood asked for more information, because this goes against what he has been told by the Locality Officer.

Grounds Maintenance Contract

The Clerk asked the contractor to cut back the Tink-a-Tank, which was done on Friday 02/06/2023.

Issue raised with nettles in the playground with the contractor.

Other (Clerk)

Cllr Elsy asked about footpath towards Ashow. Clerk advised contacting Rights of Way Officer, WCC

9. County and District Councillors' reports

9.1. Warwickshire County Council C/Cllr not present

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9.2. Warwick District Council

D/Cllr Payne did not have anything specific to report.

A discussed about the Woodcote planning application took place and D/Cllr Payne expressed support to obtain information, when it could be effective.

10. **Planning**

10.1. To note planning decisions made:

- W/23/0320 Willow Tree Cottage, Woodloes Lane, Guys Cliffe, Warwick, CV35 7RE - Erection of a two-storey rear extension – NO OBJECTION (Sent: 12/04/2023) – WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT
- W/23/0377/LB North Lodge, Woodcote Lane, Leek Wootton, Warwick, CV35 7QD North Lodge whilst not listed itself, is located within the grounds of grade II listed Woodcote House. This application is for the much-needed external repair works to the north lodge, the building is currently derelict with its condition worsening. These repairs focus on getting the building water tight by repairing the roof and replacing the old broken, blocked and leaking guttering, the replacement of the current rotten single glazed windows and doors with new wooden framed double glazed to match the style of the existing increasing the buildings thermal properties. This application is also for any repair works to the masonry envelope of the building including repointing and stone repairs. SUPPORT (Sent: 12/04/2023) GRANTED

10.2. A report on the progress of current planning applications:

- W/22/0465 Land at Warwickshire Police Headquarters, Woodcote Lane, Leek Wootton, Warwick, CV35 7QA - Erection of 83 dwellings (including affordable housing), access, internal roads and footpaths, car parking, public open space, landscaping, drainage and other associated works and infrastructure – OBJECTION (Sent: 30/05/2022)
- W/22/1877 Land at Warwickshire Police Headquarters, Woodcote Lane, Leek Wootton, Warwickshire, CV35 7QA - Application for Outline Planning Permission for up to 83 dwellings (including affordable housing), access, internal roads and footpaths, car parking, public open space, landscaping, drainage and other associated works and infrastructure (all matters of details reserved except for the vehicular access to the site) – OBJECTION (Sent: 10/02/2023)
- W/23/0287 & 0288/LB Club House, The Warwickshire, Warwick Road, Leek Wootton, Warwick, CV35 7QT Conversion of former farm buildings to provide 17 guest bedrooms; demolition of post-war storage barn and replacement with new building to provide 10 guest rooms; and erection of small link building on the site of previous outbuilding together with all ancillary works. AND Conversion of former farm buildings to provide 17 guest bedrooms; demolition of post-war storage barn and replacement with new building to provide 10 guest rooms; and erection of small link building on the site of previous outbuilding SUPPORT (Sent: 13/04/2023)
- W/23/0523 Cherry Apple Cottage, Warwick Road, Leek Wootton, Warwick, CV35 7RB – Erection of 1no. Four Bedroom Dwelling House and Associated External Works. – OBJECTION (Sent: 16/05/2023)

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10.3. To consider new planning applications: W/23/0522 - River Avon Viaduct North of, Old Milverton Lane, Old Milverton, Leamington Spa - Prior Approval under Part 18, Class A 1 of Schedule 2 (Miscellaneous development - development under local or private Acts or Order) of the Town and County Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 for proposed infilling of bridge arch of River Avon viaduct - Comment due: 16/06/2023 - Neutral, but expressing concern about ecological damage to flood meadow by temporary compound, also traffic issues [UPDATE 16/06/2023: Sent] W/23/0746/LB - Guy's Cliffe House, Coventry Road, Guys Cliffe, Warwick, CV34 5YD - Repair of boundary wall within Grade II Listed Landscape further to vehicle impact - Comment due: 27/06/2023 - Support [UPDATE 15/06/2023: Sent] 10.4. Any other planning related issues. None to report 11. **Finance** 11.1. The Financial Report for the month to 6 June 2023 was approved. Cllr Kirkwood asked about the inclusion of the forthcoming payment of the PWLB loan before it had been received. The Clerk stated that this was only included as a non-received payment, because it had a fixed date of receipt on 01/06/2023 (within the reconciliation period being 01-06/06/2023). Payments listed on the Financial Report were approved. 11.2. 12. **Parish Council Administration** 12.1. Recruitment A brief discussion took place about potential Councillors in light of the two vacancies on the Parish Council. 12.2. Communications Nothing to report. 12.3. **Training** No training currently required. 13. Correspondence for information Nothing of particular note. 14. Councillors' Reports and items for future agenda Nothing to report. 15. Date of next meeting The next ordinary Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 7:30pm on Tuesday, 4 July 2023 at Leek Wootton Village Hall. 16. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for

Meeting closed at 21:35

16.1.

16.2.

•	R Coates (Chair)	Date:	04/07/2023

consideration of the following items:

Personnel issues - None

Legal issues - None



Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council

Ecological Development Plan linked to Condition 4 of application W/21/1871... Leek Wootton Recreation Ground Car Park redevelopment project (June 2023)

Context:

- 1. The redevelopment of the Recreation Ground car park has enabled steps to be taken to improve the bio-diversity of the whole area.
- 2. An appraisal of the current state of bio-diversity within the area has been carried out.
- 3. This appraisal has led to an Action plan including targets to improve and maintain species, habitat and diversity.

Site description illustrated in plan drawing:

- 1. The whole site is a redeveloped car park that serves the local village community which includes a Village Hall, Sports Club and the Recreation Ground and Children's playground.
- 2. In addition there is a triangular grassed area of approximately 160 sq metres. This encompasses the War memorial stone and four memorial trees.
- 3. There is also an enclosed garden on the east side of the village hall

Areas for Development:

- 1. To undertake the planting of native tree species
- 2. To develop a wildflower meadow, establishing habitats for native species of pollinators and establish a meadow experience for the community
- 3. To erect bat boxes to encourage and protect the species within our local area NB No bats were identified in this area in the survey carried by Arbtech in 2021
- 4. To erect sparrow terraces to encourage and protect the species within our local area (6 individual bird boxes are already well established on trees in the Village Hall Garden)

Areas for development	Actions	Lead/Community involvement	Start/End	Resources and costs	Success criteria	Impact and evaluation
1.To undertake the planting of native tree species	1.Preparation of the area 2.Source 8 trees from grower: - 2 Hawthorn - 2 Crab apple - 2 Hazel - 2 Field maple 3. Source appropriate tree protection and support for each species 4. Within 18 months of approvalorganise the planting of the trees in Autumn 2024 time frame	In perpetuity: 1.Parish Council Environment group 2.Trustees of the Recreation Ground 3. Village Hall committee	Startafter the completion of the car park works End18 months from the completion of the car park works	- 8 x 1.5/2 metre high trees supplied by 'Trees Direct' (£480 approx) -8 x recyclable protective tree guards and ties supplied by 'Green Tech' (£60 approx) -8 x tree supports locally supplied (£50 approx)	Designated area has been planted in accordance with the Development Plan	-All trees are growing successfully -Observations of increasing bird and insect life in the area

Years 0-5:

- Ensure trees continue to be supported appropriately from weather and animal damage
- Check trees are growing above the height of competing weeds and grasses
- In Summer check weeds are not growing inside protection tubes
- Ensure trees are adequately watered throughout the year

Years 5-15:

- Remove recyclable protection tubes in the summer to allow bark to toughen when the tree is sufficiently mature
- Start formative pruning of branches where appropriate

Years 15-30:

Monitor the quality of the habitat created for species development...health of trees, regularity of pollinators observed

NB: If any trees fail there will be a requirement to replace with the same species and of a similar size, as far as possible, within 12 months of the failure.

Areas for development	Actions	Lead/Community involvement	Start/End	Resources and costs	Success criteria	Impact and evaluation
2. To develop a wildflower meadow, establishing habitats for native species of pollinators and establish a meadow experience for the community.	1. Removal of topsoil in prepared areas Autumn 23/Spring 24 2. Cover these areas with black plastic to prevent arisings during next months 3. Source Wildflower butterfly and bee meadow mix from Landlife: I kg of LW3M (see species attachment) 4. Organise the sowing of seed in prepared areas	In perpetuity: 1.Parish Council Environment group 2.Trustees of the Recreation Ground 3. Village Hall committee	Startafter the completion of the car park works End18 months from the completion of the car park works	-LW3M seed mix (£49) - Black plastic sheeting (£20)	Designated area has been planted in accordance with the Development Plan	-Evidence of a range of wildflowers throughout the prepared areas during growing season - Observations of increasing numbers of pollinators -Positive interest shown in the area from the community

First year:

- Monitor growth of seed after planting, watering small areas during dry spells
- Regularly remove obvious weeds that out compete the more delicate wildflowers
- Growth to be cut (strim/mow) in midsummer during a dry period (late June to early August) allowing seeds and cuttings to dry on the ground before removal/composting

Subsequent years:

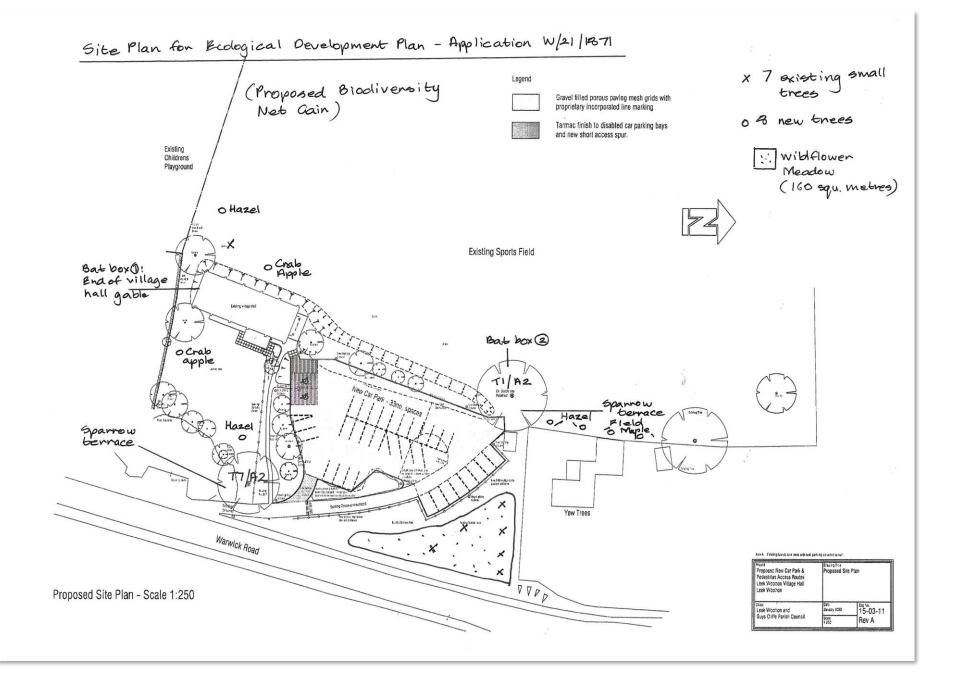
- Further seeding or plug planting to be considered depending on meadow development using similar species
- · Growth to be cut (strim/mow) in early Spring and Summer/Autumn as development dictates
- Continued removal of dominant weeds and other arisings

Areas for development	Actions	Lead/Community involvement	Start/End	Resources and costs	Success criteria	Impact and evaluation
3. To erect bat boxes to encourage and protect the species within our local area NB No bats were identified in this area in the survey carried by Arbtech in 2021	1.Identify 2 appropriate SW facing sites for boxesSW gable end of Village Hall , SW side of T1/A2 treesee plan 2. Erect the two bat boxes, ideally at least 3 or 4 metres above ground level	In perpetuity: 1.Parish Council Environment group 2.Trustees of the Recreation Ground 3. Village Hall committee	Startafter the completion of the car park works End18 months from the completion of the car park works	2 x Traditional bat box ('Nestbox Company' £60)	-The two boxes have been erected in identified sites and appear to be in use.	-Any observations of bat life in the area in future yearssightings, droppings, use marks on boxes

- Bats are protected species by law.
- Only persons holding an appropriate licence are allowed to disturb the boxes in any way
- Contact the local Bat Conservation Trust for all advice

Areas for development	Actions	Lead/Community involvement	Start/End	Resources and costs	Success criteria	Impact and evaluation
4. To erect sparrow terraces to encourage and protect the species within our local area (6 individual bird boxes are already well established on trees in the Village Hall Garden)	1. Identify 2 appropriate NW facing sites on existing mature trees (T7/A2 and T1/A2) 2. Erect the two sparrow terraces, ideally at least 3 metres above the ground level	In perpetuity: 1.Parish Council Environment group 2.Trustees of the Recreation Ground 3. Village Hall committee	Startafter the completion of the car park works End18 months from the completion of the car park works	2 x Sparrow terraces ('Nestbox Company' £100)	-The sparrow terraces have been erected in identified sites and appear to be in use.	-Any observations of an increase in sparrow numbers in the area in future years and use of boxes

- An annual routine of cleaning and maintenance to be established...between the months of September and January, ensuring the box is no longer active
- Remove any eggs that have failed to hatch
- Use boiling water to kill any parasites and allow box to dry





Leek Wootton & Guy's Cliffe Parish Council

← Back to Landlife Wildflowers

Butterfly & Bee 80/20 Wildflower Meadow



LWBM contains twenty six native British wildflowers and grasses formulated to create a diverse meadow to support butterflies, bees and other pollinating insects.

Consisting of 80% grass and 20% wildflowers, LWBM creates a permanent meadow with flowers from May to October. LWBM provides habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies and other PERFECATOR pollinating insects.

LWBM supports bees, butterflies and other pollinators as 81% of the wildflowers included in this mixture are recommended by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) as 'Perfect for Pollinators'.

Mixture Contents:

	Common Name	Latin Name	Quantity	Flowers	Height	Туре
0	Agrimony, Common	Agrimonia eupatoria	0.2%	Jun - Sep	50 - 150cm	Perennial
2	Borage	Borago officinalis	1.4%	Aug-Sep	60 - 80cm	Annual
3	Clary, Wild	Salvia verbenaca	0.8%	May - Aug	30 - 40cm	Perennial
4	Clover, Red	Trifolium pratense	0.6%	May - Sep	20 - 60cm	Perennial
5	Clover, White	Trifolium repens	0.2%	Jun - Sep	15 - 20cm	Perennial
6	Corn Cockle	Agrostemma githago	1.6%	May - Aug	50 - 70cm	Annual
7	Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus	1.2%	Jun - Oct	20 - 80cm	Annual
8	Daisy, Ox-eye	Leucanthemum vulgare	1%	May - Sep	20 - 100cm	Perennial
9	Foxglove, Wild	Digitalis purpurea	0.6%	Jun - Aug	50 - 100cm	Biennial
10	Knapweed, Common	Centaurea nigra	1.2%	Jun - Sep	30 - 80cm	Perennial
0	Knapweed, Greater	Centaurea scabiosa	1%	Jun - Sep	50 - 90cm	Perennial
12	Loosestrife, Purple	Lythrum salicaria	0.2%	Jun - Sep	100 - 200cm	Perennial
13	Marjoram, Wild	Origanum vulgare	0.2%	Jul - Oct	20 - 50cm	Perennial
1	Meadow Cranesbil	Geranium pratense	0.2%	May-Aug	40 - 60cm	Perennial
15	Musk Mallow	Malva moschata	1%	May - Sep	20 - 150cm	Perennial
16	Poppy, Common	Papaver rhoeas	1%	May - Jul	50 - 70cm	Annual
O	Ragged Robin	Lychnis flos-cuculi	0.4%	May - Aug	30 - 90cm	Perennial
13	Sainfoin	Onobrychis viciifolia	1.4%	Jul - Sep	30 - 40cm	Perennial
19	Scabious, Field	Knautia arvensis	1.4%	Jul - Sep	30 - 200cm	Perennial
20	Scabious, Small	Scabiosa columbaria	0.6%	Jul - Aug	20 - 60cm	Perennial
21	Teasel	Dipsacus fullonum	0.2%	Jul - Aug	100 - 200cm	Biennial
22	Trefoil, Bird's-foot	Lotus corniculatus	0.4%	Jun - Aug	10 - 40cm	Perennial
23	Vetch, Kidney	Anthyllis vulneraria	0.4%	May - Oct	15 - 50cm	Perennial
24	Viper's Bugloss	Echium vulgare	0.4%	May - Oct	50 - 100cm	Biennial
25	Yarrow	Achillea millefolium	1%	Jun - Oct	20 - 100cm	Perennial
26	Yellow Rattle	Rhinanthus minor	1.4%	Jun - Sep	20 - 50cm	Annual
	Bent, Common	Agrostis castellana	4%		50 - 100cm	Grass
	Crested Dogstail	Cynosurus cristatus	20%		30 - 60cm	Grass
	Fescue, Sheeps	Festuca ovina	16%		15 - 50cm	Grass
	Fescue, Slender Creeping Red	Festuca rubra, litoralis	24%		10 - 20cm	Grass
	Meadow Grass, Smooth Stalke	Poa pratensis	6.4%		30 - 90cm	Grass
	Timothy, Small Leaved	Phleum pratense ssp Bertolinii	9.6%		50 - 100cm	Grass

Contains:



Sowing Rate: 5g/sqm

The definition of UK native seed provided by Natural England is: British native-origin seed refers to seed originally collected from wild populations in Great Britain (from sites with no known history of sowing of amenity or agricultural varieties) and either sown directly, or grown on as a field crop to provide further seed. It includes seed collected in 'green hay'. It excludes certified amenity or agricultural varieties of native species.

LWBM Butterfly & Bee 80/20 Wildflower Meadow





Prepare the Ground

LWBM Butterfly & Bee Wildflower Meadow seed mixture performs best in low nutrient soils, which haven't been heavily fertilised in the past. For best results sow into bare soil after clearing all existing plants and weeds from the area.

Cultivate the ground to a depth of 10cm to relieve compaction and create a fine level tilth, free from obstructions (to allow for mowing at a later stage). Finish the seedbed by treading or lightly rolling the area, so that it is firm enough to stand on without leaving indentations.

Where weeds have been prevalent, allow a flush of weeds to germinate and remove these before sowing. In areas of high fertility, it may be necessary to remove the topsoil and sow into the subsoil. High nutrient soils encourage weeds and fast growing grasses which may outcompete the wildflowers in this mixture.

For overseeding into existing grassland, use a pure wildflower seed mixture such as LWBP or LWRE.

Sowing

LWBM should be sown between March and November. Spring and autumn provide ideal conditions as moisture and warmth are in good supply.

Distribute seed with a handheld or pedestrian spreader, at the recommended sowing rate of 5g/sqm. Mix the wildflower seeds with an inert carrier (such as sharp sand), at a ratio of four parts sand to one part seed (by weight). This makes it easier to achieve an even distribution and also provides a visual marker, making it easier to see any missed patches and avoid seeding areas twice.

Regularly mix the seed when sowing, as seeds will naturally separate due to variations in size and weight.

Once sown, ensure good 'seed to soil' contact by lightly raking to a depth of 0.5cm or rolling the area.

It is also possible to broadcast, drill or hydroseed this mixture for larger or hard to reach areas. However, broadcast spreading throws heavier seeds further so this may impact the distribution and when drilling, the seed must not be buried deeper than 0.7 cm

Sowing Rate

The sowing rate of 5g/sqm is designed to produce optimum results. Reducing the sowing rate is likely to result in invasion from weed species. Increasing the sowing rate generally leads to reduced diversity as the more aggressive species will outcompete slower growing plants.

Maintenance First Year

LWBM contains many perennial species, which can be slow to establish and are unlikely to flower in the first year. Annual species such as Borage, Corncockle, Cornflower and Field Poppy will generally flower in year one. Therefore it is important to control weed and grass growth in year one.

During the first year remove any weeds which grow before they run to seed, either by topping, mowing or by hand for smaller areas. Weed growth is common due to the action of disturbing the ground (rather than being caused by contaminated seed mixtures).

The nurse grasses are the first to grow and require topping or mowing in March and again in May. Remove all clippings to ensure the grass canopy doesn't interfere with the germination and spring growth of the wildflowers.

In September / October cut the area to 10cm using a scythe, strimmer or mower, leaving the cuttings for up to a week before removing. This allows them to dry and shed seeds back into the soil. Mow or graze the re-growth through autumn/ winter and again in early spring if needed.

Second Year

After twelve months the sward should be well established. Simply follow the same cutting pattern (in March and September/October). Avoid cutting from mid spring to summer to ensure best flowering results.

As an ongoing process, observe and remove any weeds which invade the area.

Over time, some species within the mixture may become more dominant due to environmental factors and natural selection. To encourage diversity, simply reduce the number of dominant plants in order to restore the balance. In some areas with more dominant grasses, it may be necessary to overseed occasionally with a pure wildflower mixture such as LWBP or LWRE to ensure the wildflowers remain competitive.



As members of Flora Locale, Landlife Wildflowers follows a strict code of practice to ensure wildflower seed is of UK native origin and is harvested and grown responsibly to aid conservation and help protect native UK wild plants.



In LWBM 81% of the wildflower species included are recognised by the Royal Horticultural Society as supporting many of the 1500 species of pollinating insects across the UK.

For information on this or any other mixtures in the Landlife Wildflowers range, contact us on 01205 281 902 or email info@wildflower.co.uk