

RESTORING SHROPSHIRE'S VERGES: Case Studies

Bushmoor Verges Project 2023/24

Grid Ref: SO 43542 87649

Restoration and management of a roadside verge as a wildflower meadow and wildlife habitat

Partners/Funders: Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project (RSVP), Shropshire Hills AONB Trust, through the AONB Conservation Fund, the National Trust, Stepping Stones Project, Shropshire Council Highways Department, and local verges contractor

Costs:

- Volunteer time in 2023/24 estimated as 100 hours
- Shropshire Hills AONB Trust, through the AONB Conservation Fund grant for the cut and collection of verge vegetation £660



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RESTORING SHROPSHIRE'S VERGES PROJECT: Bushmoor Verges Project

The Bushmoor Verges Project began in early 2021 with the formation of our enthusiastic Volunteer Group made up of around a dozen local residents. Our verges are approximately three quarters of a mile in length and cover an area of approximately 1400 square metres.

Our work in 2023/24 began with a verge walk in April and survey in June. We've now identified over 130 species of wildflowers, demonstrating the diversity of this roadside meadow, and we now have a growing catalogue of species photographs.

During July Yellow Rattle seed was harvested from the verges and other local sites, and in early August vegetation from both sides of the verges, was cut and collected by local contractor Parks & Gardens.

As needed, further groundwork, seeding and the planting of plugs, bulbs or plants are planned as the next steps designed to enhance the verges as a habitat for wildflowers, invertebrates, birds and small mammals.

The Verge Group Walk in April



The Verges in May



The Verges in June



Cut and Collect in August



The Verge Group survey team in June



A selection of photo's from our species catalogue

Greater Stitchwort



Goats Beard



Hedge Mustard



Lesser Trefoil

