

How Parish councils can support local groups



BIG Picture

At UN Nature Summit COP15, through the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) - December 2022

190 Countries agreed to 4 Goals & 23 global targets, including:

- A global commitment to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030.
- 30% of global land and 30% of global ocean to be protected by 2030.
- 30% of degraded ecosystems to be under restoration by 2030.
- A commitment to end human induced-species extinctions of known threatened species by 2030 and restore genetic diversity.

Global goal to achieve protection; one third of land, freshwater and seas by 2050

Environmental Improvement Plan 2023

First revision of the 25 Year Environment Plan



Five years ago, the 25 Year Environment Plan (25YEP) set out a vision for a quarter-of-a century of action to help the natural world regain and retain good health. & Refresh the plan every five years, a commitment set into law in the Environment Act 2021.



Goal 1
Thriving plants and wildlife



Goal 2
Clean air



Goal 3
Clean and plentiful water



Goal 4
Managing exposure to chemicals and pesticides



Goal 5
Maximise our resources, minimise our waste



Goal 6
Using resources from nature sustainably



Goal 7
Mitigating and adapting to climate change



Goal 8
Reduced risk of harm from environmental hazards



Goal 9
Enhancing biosecurity



Goal 10
Enhancing beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment

The 2023 State of Nature report

Shows that the abundance of species studied in the UK has declined by 19 per cent on average since records began in 1970.

But while the most important natural habitats are in poor condition, work to protect landscapes has clear benefits for nature, people and climate.

CO-ORDINATING OUR RESPONSE:

- Action to restore nature is best co-ordinated with action to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change because land-use scenarios suggest that wildlife is likely to benefit from maximising nature-based solutions (for example, native woodland creation and peatland restoration) in order to achieve net-zero in the land sector.
- However, this will need to be achieved whilst meeting people's needs for food, energy and access to nature. Access to nature supports human health and well-being but there is inequality, with people in poorer socio-economic settings having less access to wildlife-rich natural spaces.

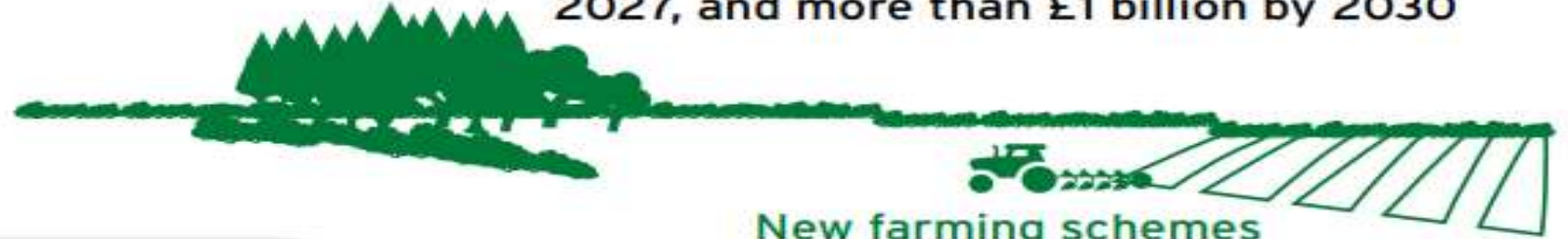
Green jobs

Develop green jobs to help us deliver our environmental goals



Green finance

Aim to raise at least £500 million per year of private finance into nature's recovery by 2027, and more than £1 billion by 2030



New farming schemes

Invest in farmers and land managers to deliver public goods, improve productivity, and animals' health and welfare

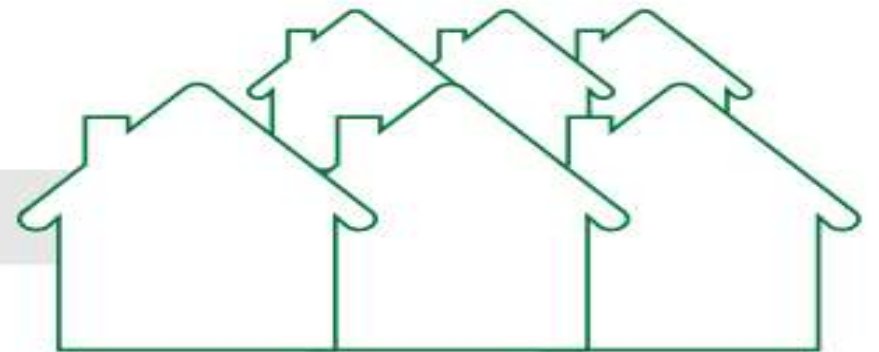


Greening Government Commitments Continue to lead the way by greening our estate and operations



Making green choices

Enable all parts of society to play their part in line with our six principles for green choices



Biodiversity net gain

Make sure developments leave habitats in a better state for wildlife than before

Co-benefits of Climate Action



Health

- Addressing **air quality, mental health, lifestyle diseases** (heart disease, diabetes etc).
- Less pressure on the **NHS**.



Equity & Community

- Safe, prosperous communities **for all**, regardless of status, wealth, race, religion etc.
- **Accessibility** and mobility for residents.



Financial savings

- Climate actions that **save money**.

Co-benefits of Climate Action



Green space

- Increased area or access to **green space**.
- Green spaces include **tree planting** but can also be created in less obvious projects.



Resilience

- The ability to **prepare, recover** and **adapt** to climate impacts.
- This can be related to **extreme weather** events, access to **resources**, economic recovery etc.

Manage land for nature

Rodington Parish Council

- Transformed a plot of unused land into a community orchard with apple and pear trees and have engage local community to plant wildflower meadow in the parish too.



Health



Equity &
Community



Financial
savings

Save Our Shropshire CIO



Resilience



Green
space

LA & Town Councils

- Telford & Wrekin by 2040 will be a Forest Community with enhanced and protected natural environment.
- Oswestry planning to plant 17,000 trees, one for each resident over a three-year period.



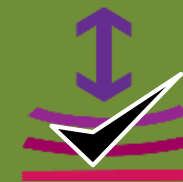
Health



Equity & Community



Financial
savings



Resilience



Green
space

Youth projects

- Edgmond Parish Council Councillor and clerk engaged with local groups to develop Church Field, re-developed an open space into a mixed habitat.
- St Peter's School wild area viewing area and revitalising pond
- Shropshire Wildlife Trust's 'Environment Leadership Programme'. Young people learning new skills in caring for the environment.



Health



Equity &
Community



Financial
savings



Resilience



Green
space

How do you do it

- Identify in your area three things
- 1 who is interested ?
- 2 where can they do it?
- 3 is there money involved?

Identify an area

- Could be Parish Council owned
 - Privately owned, In Trust or a Common
 - Waste ground area or triangles of land adjacent to road junctions - Local Authority ie. Highway's Dept.
 - Neglected land on estates – Housing Associations
-
- Don't be afraid to ask
 - and don't worry about rejection - move on

Work with what you have got

It doesn't have to be perfect

Don't let imperfection stop you doing stuff

Have a rough plan

Get permission - if needed

Create a group / constitution (money)

Revisit plans and tweak them

Just do it

FRIENDS OF GROUP

Friends of Apley Woods

Friends of Bowring Park

Friends of Dale End Park

Friends of Dawley Hamlets LNR

Friends of Dawley Park

Friends of Dothill LNR

Friends of Dunsheath

Friends of Granville Country Park

FURTHER INFORMATION



History



Wildlife

Friends of Apley Woods

Thanks to the hard work of Friends of Apley Woods, Telford and Wrekin Council, other conservation agencies and Councillor Karen Blundell, we are proud to announce that Apley Woods has been declared a Local Nature Reserve.



Friends of Apley Woods

In 2007, local residents of Apley along with Apley Borough Councillor, Karen Blundell, and Corney, Environmental Maintenance Officer of Telford & Wrekin Council, formed a partnership called, "Friends of Apley Woods".

Local Action



Established in 1978

*Serving Issenbridge, Longdon upon Tern, Rodington Heath,
Rodington, Sugden and Somerwood of Shropshire*

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[HUGOFOX HOME](#) > [COMMUNITY](#) > [RODINGTON PARISH COUNCIL](#) > [PROJECTS & EVENTS](#) > [CLIMATE & NATURE ACTION](#)

Climate & Nature Action

Rodington Parish Council is supported in its aims for a greener Rodington parish by the Rodington Parish Climate & Nature Steering Group which was formed in 2022 by the parish council.

In the spring 2022 edition of Village Voice, we put out a call to all residents in the parish to give us your ideas for how we can make Rodington, Longdon upon Tern and the spaces in between and around them better for the environment and the species and people that use them. This followed the parish council's declaration of a climate and nature emergency in December 2021 as we acknowledged the emergencies facing the world related to these issues. We were delighted with the range of ideas you provided us with.

These covered a full spectrum of environmental concerns, and a working group of parish residents have grouped them in this vision under 4 themes: Wildlife & Habitats, Energy & Carbon, Waste & Recycling and finally Access & Travel. Whether it's creating habitat for much-loved species such as hedgehogs, promoting renewable energy, increasing recycling or encouraging active travel, everything represented in this vision comes from you, our community, and it is therefore truly your plan.

Below you can find the terms of reference for our Steering Group and the publication of "A greener Rodington parish" which sets out our vision in Rodington parish.

Membership form to the Climate & Nature Steering Group (Rodington parish)

Title *	First Name *	Surname *
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Address	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Email Address	<input type="text"/>
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Phone	<input type="text"/>
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Any particular areas of interest in the 4 theme areas (no experience/knowledge required, but it would be helpful for the Steering Group to know if you do)?

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife & Habitats | <input type="checkbox"/> Waste & Recycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (e.g. agriculture, project management) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy & Carbon | <input type="checkbox"/> Access & Travel | |

If so, please describe below

I agree to keep to the Terms of Reference of the Climate & Nature Steering Group (available on the Parish Council website) *

- Agree

Local Green Spaces



Children's play area

Playing field

Village hall field

School land

Church field

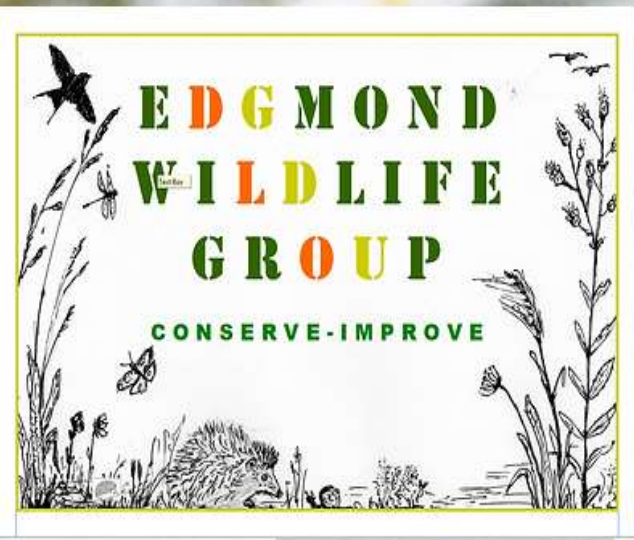
Legend

 Local Green Spaces

Influencing areas within a Parish Council

Neighbourhood or Parish Plan

Local Green spaces



SCROLL DOWN FOR MORE
INFORMATION .



Local Interest Groups

Edmond Wildlife
Group
2018 - present

Approximately
105 members



Sign Up

If you are a member of EWG you are signing up to support the hedgehogs in the Edgmond Hedgehog Conservation Area. (EHCA)

We are working as a community to help hedgehogs in our village gardens and open spaces.

You can help by taking action on some or all of the suggested activities described on the next page of our web site. Here we set out to offer advice and guidance on various aspects of garden hedgehog conservation.



Church Field Edgmond

Managed by Church Trustees
1965 - 2020

Approximately 2.5 acres

Rewilding project 2017

9 Oak Trees



Approximately every month the church had a contractor with a topper cut the field.

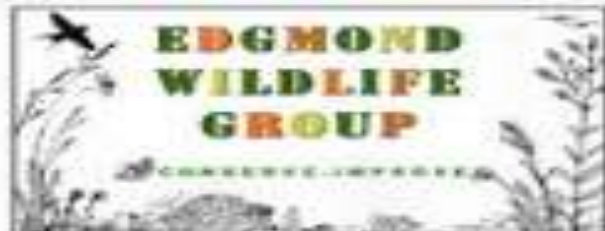
All the cuttings were left behind causing poor grass growth.

No known fertiliser or weedkillers applied since 1965



April 2020 EWG approach Church Trustees
May 2020 Management Plan for the field
June 2020 Trustee agreement to manage Field

The Church Field is held in Trust by the Lichfield Diocese.
 In agreement with the Trustees, the Edgmond Wildlife Group is creating
 more varied habitats for wildlife and improving the area for recreation.
 We hope you enjoy spending time here.



A Recreation Area & Overflow Church Parking

This is the main short grass area in front of you as you enter. We have changed the mowing regime with help from Edgmond Hall. The grass needs to rise more slowly and softer making it better for walking, playing and sitting.

This area is also used by church visitors when additional off-road parking is needed.

B Meadow

Here, we are creating a more diverse and attractive grassland that will be rich in wildflowers. We hope to attract a wider range of wildlife such as insects, ants, grasshoppers and butterflies. This is a long term project. The first stage is to reduce soil fertility by cutting and removing the grass. This will allow less competitive flowers and grasses to flourish.

C Tussock Grass & Wild Flowers

The Church Field margins are being left to grow. This will become home to taller grasses and a variety of hedgerow plants. We will ask our village gardeners to grow wild flowers so that they can be transplanted into these areas.

Look out for freestone, bedstraw, herb robert and germander speedwell.

D Shrub Areas

The new shrub areas will be planted with a range of British small trees and shrubs like dogwood, garden rose, hazel and white hawthorn. Hazel is especially good for wildlife and is known to support over 300 species of animal, including woodpeckers, jays and nutcracker. Flowering shrubs have will help to improve the appearance of the field and provide shelter and food for a wide range of wildlife.

Trees

The largest Oak (Quercus robur) can be found in the bottom left hand corner of the field. There are also some young oak trees and two horse chestnuts growing on the right.

Oak trees support 200 different species of insect. Bark beetles, beetles and deer all eat acorns. Flowers and leaf buds of the English Oak are the food for the caterpillars of purple hairstreak butterfly. Oaks root in the limestone and help root in the holes left by woodpeckers.

Horse chestnuts produce catkins and can live for 300 years. The flowers provide nectar and pollen for bees. Caterpillars feed on its leaves and provide food for blue tits and other birds.

General Information

The Church Field is registered as a charity and is managed by up to five Trustees. The Chair of the Trustees is Sarah Peck Helen Morley, who may be contacted at Edgmond Rectory, in 2020 the Trustees agreed a management plan for the field with Edgmond Wildlife Group (EWG).

The field will be managed to improve biodiversity and to encourage greater use by local people. If you would like to know more about EWG or find out more about what is currently happening in the field, then please visit our Facebook page or take a leaflet from the box. New members and offers of help are always welcomed!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/edgmondwildlifegroup>

E Hedges

Two hedges provide important habitats. One hedge runs across the field in front of the graveyard. This was planted just after the millennium and then later 'left' in a traditional hedge laying style. It is a mixed hedge containing Hawthorn, Hazel, Holly and Field Maple. The second hedge runs down the left hand side of the field and is almost entirely Hawthorn with some Holly. Both hedges provide nesting places for chaffinch, blackbird, song thrush, goldfinch, robins and dunnocks.

In the winter the hedges produce fruit and nuts that are fed on by a wide variety of British birds as well as visiting thrushes, robins and fieldfares.

F Sandstone Walls

The walls along the front and right hand sides of the field are habitats in their own right. The dry ivy-leaved sandstone clings to the stones in many places. Butterflies hibernata in the crevices between the stones and amongst the ivy. Many other insects (we have) providing food for birds and small mammals.



PLEASE

- Respect the wildflowers and wildlife
- Look but don't pick
- Keep dogs under control
- Take your litter home

Enjoy yourself



Church Field July 2020



Yellow Rattle
Rhinanthus minor



Meadow section in flower

More seeds to be sown now we have established





Church Field now

Church Field Changes



2016 outlook



2023 outlook



Church Field Edgmond

PLEASE

Respect the wildflowers and wildlife

Look but don't pick

Keep your dogs under control

Take your litter home

Enjoy yourself



CONTACT DETAILS FOR

Edgmond Wildlife Group (EWG)

CHAIR—Jon Lloyd

Email: jslloyd@btinternet.com

TREASURER— Michelle Wilson

Email:

Michellwilson25@hotmail.com

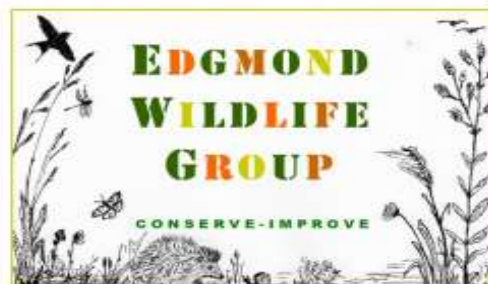
Address: Mrs M Wilson, Bramley, 15-17 School Road
Edgmond TF10 8LB

Managed by Edgmond Wildlife Group on
behalf of the St Peters Church and the
Church Field Trustees and with the help of
Edgmond Hall



If you would like to get more involved with Edgmond Wildlife Group then please write to our Secretary Michelle Wilson at the email address on the back of this leaflet.

You will be sent further information and this will include our membership form.



Note: Membership from June this year 2020 to June next year 2021 is **FREE**. Next years membership will be £8 for adults and £10 for families.

We are a non profit organisation and every penny we raise will go into our conservation work here in the village. This work will not only include practical hands on activities but also the provision of talks and other educational activities that encourage the community to engage with the natural world around us.

We believe that all members of the community should be involved and we are particularly keen to foster links with children of all ages and get them interested and actively taking part in conservation activities.

The Church Field

FAMILY INFORMATION LEAFLET

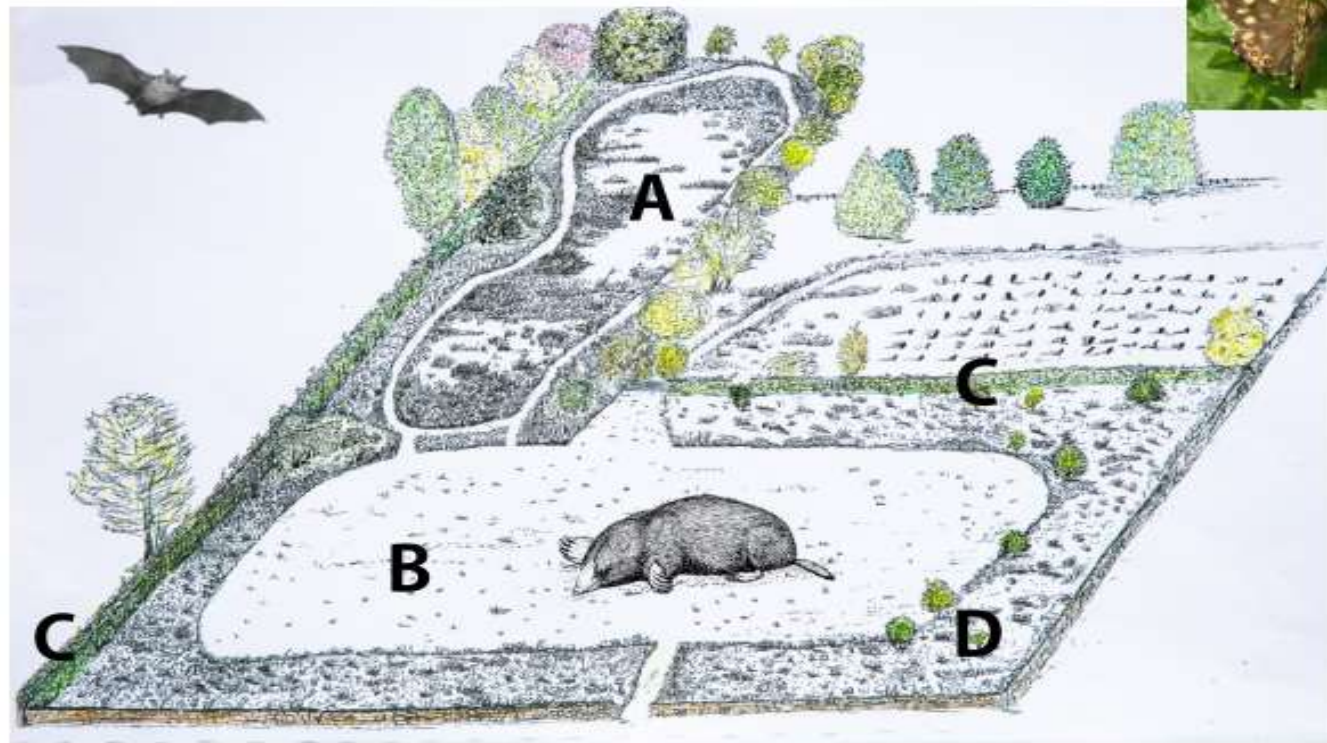


A - Meadow. We are making a meadow. This will be an area for wild grass and wild flowers. When it is finished it will attract many different types of insects, birds and mammals.

Small Pipistrelle bats can be seen here in the late evening hunting across the meadow and surrounding gardens. Look out for Field Grasshoppers. They have been seen for the first time this year.



Trees - The largest Oak can be found in the bottom left hand corner of the field. The acorns are collected by the Grey Squirrels and some buried to be eaten later. In the summer, look out for the Speckled Wood butterfly, it loves the areas of shade and sun where the trees and hedges meet.



B - Play and Picnic area. We have changed the way we cut grass here. The grass is now shorter and softer to sit on. The short grass allows Blackbirds and Song Thrushes to find worms. Pied Wagtails like to run across the grass in the summer catching insects. The moles seem to like it as well.



D - Tussock Grass & Wild Flowers. The edges of the field are being left to grow wild. Bank Voles are already breeding and enjoying a feast of seeds and other insect food.



C - Hedges Our hedges provide nesting places for Chaffinch, Blackbird, Song Thrush, Goldfinch, Robins and Dunnocks.

In the winter they produce fruit and nuts that are feasted on by many British birds as well as visiting Redwing and Fieldfare.



Hedgehogs often make nests in the dark, quiet places beneath hedges where they give birth to their tiny hoglets.



A photograph of a large green field with a hedge in the foreground, a cemetery to the left, and a brick house in the background. The scene is captured in bright daylight, with shadows cast across the grass. The hedge is a mix of green and brown, suggesting some dry patches. The cemetery contains several headstones of various shapes and sizes. The house is a two-story brick building with a gabled roof and several windows. Tall trees are visible in the background behind the house.

Church Field

Edgmond Wildlife Group

<https://www.edgmondwildlife.com>