

# Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust

Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, landscape, wildlife or heritage of the Shropshire Hills

Educational and awareness-raising activities relating to the area and its conservation, especially involving young people



Shropshire  
Hills  
National  
Landscape





## Restoring Shropshire Verges Project

### Shropshire Hills AONB Conservation Fund

Restoring Shropshire Verges Project (RSVP) is a community group focused on creating wildflower-rich habitats on Shropshire road verges. The RSVP works closely with the local highway authority, Shropshire Council, to manage road verges to enhance ecological value and reduce carbon emissions. Shropshire Council and the main contractor, Keir, have adopted Plantlife's award-winning guidance on road verge management, see *Managing Grassland Road Verges* – a best practice guide.

Funding from the Shropshire Hills AONB Conservation Fund supported a local community verge project in the village of Edgton in South Shropshire. With the help of a local botanist, the local 'verge volunteer' group surveyed all verges in the village, identified wildflower species of interest, and produced a colour-coded map, data sheet and photographic records. There is now baseline evidence that Edgton has some of the best verges currently identified in South Shropshire, with 53 species of interest positively identified.

Cutting regimes were agreed with the South Shropshire Highways department with support from the local verge group, following public consultations in the village. Road safety and visibility were raised as concerns at these village meetings and resolved with the help of volunteers clearing vegetation from problem areas. The *Plantlife Good Verge Guide* was also used as an educational resource, and regular talks were given to organisations wanting to start a local project.

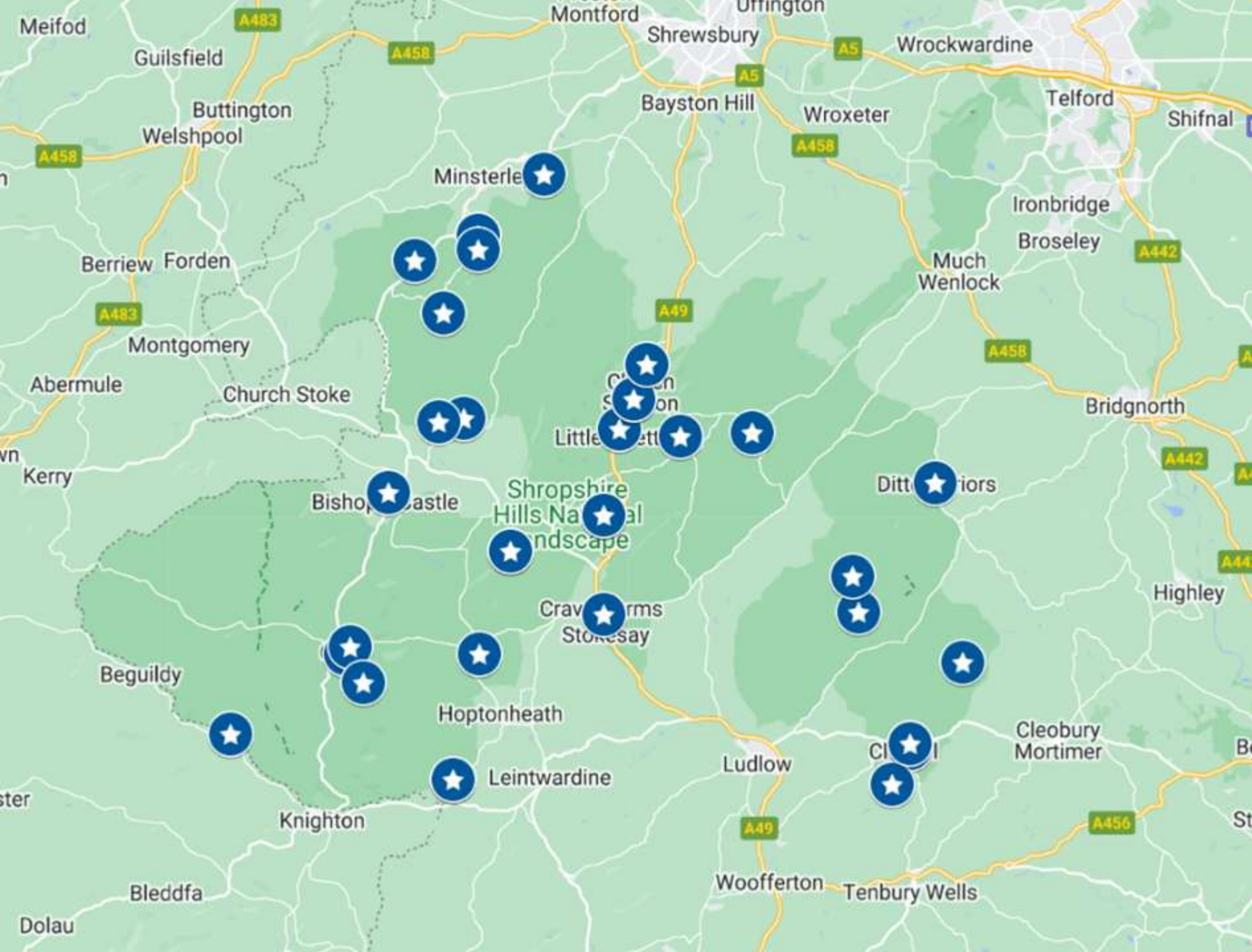
An agreement was reached with Shropshire Highways Department and Shropshire Council to ensure the project is maintained and extended.

Formed in 2018 and run by local volunteers, The Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project has been established with The National Trust, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership, Caring for Gods Acre, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, and Plantlife.



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Open for Applications!

## Shropshire Hills Conservation Fund

A small grant pot to support:

- conservation work in the Shropshire Hills National Landscape
- and/or awareness-raising activities relating to the Shropshire Hills, especially involving young people.

For full details go to:

[www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk](http://www.shropshirehills-nl.org.uk)

Administered by the Shropshire Hills Landscape Trust



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