



Middle Marches Community Land Trust Press Release

On Thursday 14 August 2025, the Stiperstones Landscape National Nature Reserve (NNR) will be launched at Nipstone Rock, near The Bog.

Stiperstones Landscape NNR declaration

- The NNR brings together a partnership of six landowning organisations, which includes Natural England, Shropshire Wildlife Trust, Shropshire Council, Linley Estate, Forestry England and Middle Marches Community Land Trust (MMCLT).
- The NNR will be declared as one of the 'King's Series' of National Nature Reserves, the first of which was declared in 2023, in honour of His Majesty The King's longstanding passion for the natural environment. This is the most significant expansion of the NNR series in a generation.
- The expanded NNR will cover **1562 Hectares** of nationally rare upland habitats which includes a mix of lowland and upland heath, woodland, bog, mire and flush and acidic grasslands
- Bringing these sites together under the banner of one NNR will aid nature recovery across and beyond these sites. The partners will work together to create a strategic management plan for all sites, which will better inform the existing site-based plans and set them in a wider and more ambitious context.

MMCLT is delighted to become a partner in the extended Stiperstones Landscape NNR.

- The extended NNR will result in more land being managed for nature which is vitally important at present.
- MMCLT own two reserves that will be included in the NNR: Norbury Hill and Minsterley Meadows, and we look forward to working with the partners across the NNR area.
- NNR designation will give better protection to these reserves.

MMCLT is a community-based organisation, owned and managed by volunteers to protect, conserve, restore and enhance our environment through the stewardship of land.

MMCLT is pleased to acknowledge the support of the National Lottery Heritage Fund and National Lottery players in the acquisition of Minsterley Meadows as a nature reserve.

Any questions please contact Dr Richard Keymer, MMCLT Chair on 07970 838417 or email richard.keymer@yahoo.co.uk

**Information about Middle Marches Community Land Trust:
<https://middlemarchescommunitylandtrust.org.uk>**

High resolution image available © Lucy Gaze (see p2).

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Image: Stiperstones © Lucy Gaze