

Meadows Newsletter

July/ August 2024



Project Update

Just a brief update this month, as we are currently in the calm before the storm. As can be seen from our pictorial diary, the cow parsley has retreated and the hogweed, nettle and bramble are in full flower in The Meadows. Towards the end of August residents will start to see activity, as the site is mown and cleared in preparation for works to begin proper at the beginning of September (for more information about our contractor, Wildscapes, see our May/ June newsletter).

In order to create a wildflower meadow the ground needs to be low in nutrients, therefore the mown cuttings will be taken away rather than left to compost. In future years seed will be gathered, but not this time, due to some of the more vigorous species currently present.

By the end of August, signs will be up and hoardings will start to appear, prior to work commencing. We only hope the weather is on our side, watch this space!

Volunteers

As mentioned in the last newsletter, we hope to set up an active volunteer group for The Meadows. If you are interested in volunteering from next year, please email us with your name and contact details to: enquiries@wirksworth.gov.uk

Did you know?

We often get complaints about dog mess and of course we are not fans here at the Town Council! However not everyone realises we are lucky enough to have three dog waste bins on The Meadows - at the end of each main pathway- please help spread the word & stop the mess!

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Pictorial Diary

Summertime in The Meadows



Designer Spotlight: Urban Wilderness



Urban Wilderness is a landscape design and environmental consultancy based in Leeds and Sheffield. They are a team of Landscape Architects, Masterplanners and Urban Designers who design at all levels from large open spaces and new settlements to individual gardens and play spaces. Their recent clients include the National Trust Longshaw Estate, Stanbrook Abbey and Nottingham Trent University.

Urban Wilderness' ethos is that every space has its own merits and they strive to embrace these to produce designs which are sensitive to the specific context and character. They believe the countryside requires sensitive design and management, to successfully incorporate new design into existing land uses and habitats; balancing design to maximise amenity and biodiversity potential. This mindset is a perfect fit for The Meadows project.

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THE DESIGN



LEGEND

HARD SURFACING

- H1 - Limestone Self Binding Gravel
Golconda 6mm to Dust
Supplier: Longcliff Quarries Limited
- Extents of Existing Path
Existing path to be extended to 3m wide as shown in drawing:
475-UW-T-003 - Surfacing & Edging
- Provisional Item: Decorative Circular Feature
Limestone Circle, 1m diameter

EDGING

- E3 - Timber Edging or TDP Recycled Plastic Edging. TBC
Tanalised Timber Edging - FSC Certified
Dimensions: 25mm(w) x 150mm(h)
Tanalised Timber Stake - FSC Certified

SOFT

- Wildflower Mix
- Wet Meadow Mix
- Amenity Grass Seed/Mown Paths
- Existing Trees
- Existing Woodland
- Existing Scrub
- Existing Grassland:
To be Managed

FURNITURE & FEATURES

- F1 - Gabion Amphitheatre Seating with Timber Top
Timber Top: To be specified by contractor and approved.
Gabion Basket: Fine Mesh Metals - Galvan 4mm 1m x 0.5m x 0.5m
Gabion Stone: Longcliff 125-75mm Limestone
- F2 - Gabion Benches with Timber Top
Timber Top: To be specified by contractor and approved.
Gabion Basket: Fine Mesh Metals - Galvan 4mm 1m x 0.5m x 0.5m
Gabion Stone: Longcliff 125-75mm Limestone
- F3 - Limestone Boulders
- F4 - Retained and Relocated Existing Benches
- Proposed Swales & Drainage Basin
Max depth 0.5m