

Meadows Newsletter

April/ May 2025 ✦



Project Update

The Meadows re-opened to the public on 28 February and hopefully by now all readers of this newsletter have had the chance to enjoy a walk through the site. The new layout has been looking lovely in the spring sunshine, which has typically been constant since our groundworks completed. Having carried out the majority of the works through a very wet winter, we are now in the midst of a very dry spring, lets hope for a little rain to water our meadow and grass seed!

The new route from the corner of Summer Lane to the centre of the site allows access through a previously inaccessible area, in the south-east corner. The other new paths will open once the final bits of work to the meadow and lawn areas are complete. Bindweed has made an unwelcome comeback in the north-west corner (near Yokecliffe) around the new paths and Wildscapes will be working to remove this in coming weeks, as well as completing the gabion bench tops.

In other news, signage designed and produced in Wirksworth, was installed on the site at the end of April and the results look great. Two volunteer sessions have now taken place, both concentrating on tree planting. Approximately 400 trees have been planted; firstly to form a hedge in the north-west corner, hiding the fences there, and secondly to fill gaps along the woodland walk. The Town Council were very grateful for the volunteers who turned out to each session. If you are interested in coming along in the future, please email enquiries@wirksworth.gov.uk and ask to be added to the volunteer mailing list -no long-term commitment necessary! Next meet-up dates will be sent out soon, with jobs including litter picking, mulching, weeding and stone removal. We can't guarantee the sunshine, but we do guarantee nice biscuits.

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If you are interested in volunteering, please email your name & contact details to:

enquiries@wirksworth.gov.uk

or drop a note into the Town Hall.



The signs and gates go in.

Supplier Spotlight: Pictorial Meadows

The meadow seed used on the site was sourced from Pictorial Meadows, a Sheffield based company. This was partly because they are a fairly local supplier and partly because their seed mixes seemed suited to our site and have proven successful on previous projects for our contractor, Wildscapes. Pictorial Meadows originated from a partnership between the University of Sheffield -with a seed of an idea initially sown by Professor Nigel Dunnett- and The Green Estate Community Interest Company. The Green Estate have collaborated with landscape designers, greenspace managers, ecologists and horticulturalists to produce visual, ecological and robust meadows able to thrive in challenging contexts. Their work was recognised in 2023 when The Green Estate received the prestigious King's Award for Enterprise in Sustainable Development (the same year as Wirksworth's own TDP) and in 2024 were named Green Innovation Business of the Year. Find out more about them online.

Funding

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Vernon Robert Bowmer Trust



Longcliffe
CALCIUM CARBONATES



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