

Meadows Newsletter

Summer 2026 ✦



Project Update

What a difference a year makes! Over the past couple of months, the Meadows has been a wonderful place to visit. If you haven't been since it burst into bloom in May, we'd encourage you to come and see it soon. The contrast with last year is remarkable. By May 2025, we were already two months into a drought, and there wasn't a flower to be seen until July. This year, after a damp spring, the meadows began flowering almost two months earlier, much to the delight of our pollinators.

While many of the annual flowers—particularly the poppies—faded early in the summer heat, the perennial species have continued to thrive. Walking along the new pathways has become a wonderful sensory experience, with grasses and seedheads swaying gently in the breeze. The two main routes through the site have been widened and will be kept clear, but one of the aims of the project was always to create a more immersive experience through the additional winding paths. It's been rewarding to see that vision come to life.

One of the biggest changes since spring has been the removal of the fencing. In June, Thompson Tree Services generously donated a morning of their team's time to work across the site, with their main task being the removal of the fence posts surrounding the lawns. They also constructed a substantial hibernaculum in the south-east corner, using layers of stone, deadwood and leaf litter, topped with soil to provide valuable habitat for wildlife. Our sincere thanks go to everyone at Thompson's for their continued support.

Finally, our volunteer team has been as busy as ever, tackling bindweed, thistles and nettles throughout the meadow areas (we know these are important species for wildlife and we let them flourish in the scrubland areas of the site whilst not allowing them to overtake the meadow). Seed collection is also now underway, particularly from the corncockle, cornflowers, poppies, ox eye daisies & chamomile. Our sincere thanks go to all of our volunteers for the time, energy and enthusiasm they contribute. If you'd like to get involved, we'd be delighted to welcome you - do get in touch and join us!

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If you are
interested in
volunteering,
email :

enquiries@
wirksworth.
gov.uk

or drop a note
into the Town
Hall.

Pictorial Diary | Summer



Fences coming out



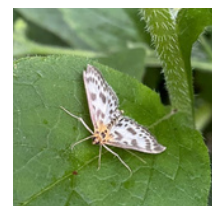
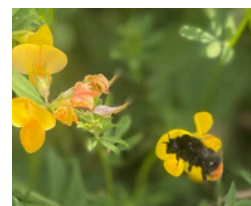
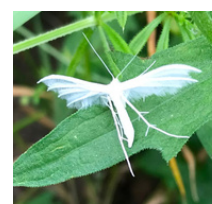
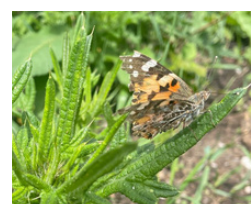
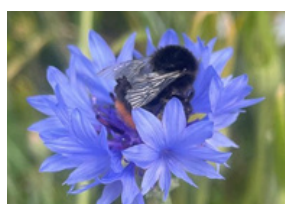
Early June Meadow



Hibernaculum creation



The southern path



Fauna on the meadow

Dogs on site: Litter has been much less of an issue across the site this year, something we all appreciate. Thank you to everyone who has helped keep The Meadows looking its best. We do however, ask residents to continue using one of the three dog waste bins provided when walking their canine companions, rather than leaving bagged waste elsewhere on the site.

Supporters:



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