



Wild Things

Based at Briercliffe Farm, Blacko, the project focuses on education provision for diverse and deprived groups of people, highlighting the importance of meadow creation and enhancement.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

To promote wildflower meadows to a wide audience, provide education around their importance, and facilitate the creation of further wildflower meadows. Restoring the meadow will have a strong emphasis on involving people from diverse backgrounds and deprived urban areas at each stage of the project. On establishment, the meadow will serve as a source of inspiration and a site for education around the topics of biodiversity, pollination and traditional farming methods.

CLIMATE

Wildflower meadow restoration, creation and enhancement will increase species diversity, root depth range, soil carbon storage and infiltration rates, together with improved soil health and structure. Restoring the habitats will increase the landscape scale connectivity and habitat provision. This will lead to increased carbon sequestration, reduced flood risk and increase the landscape resilience to climate change.

PLACE

Wildflower meadows are traditional to this area of the countryside, therefore are historic features which are being conserved, enhanced and interpreted more effectively. The character and quality of the landscape, through meadow restoration and creation is also being reinforced and enhanced for all to enjoy.

NATURE

Through carrying out meadow restoration, creation and enhancement, this will lead to an increase in biodiversity, existing habitats will be better managed, there is a greater area of improved habitat for biodiversity and there is greater connectivity between habitats.

PEOPLE

Involving scythe training days and 60 trips to the meadow site at Briercliffe farm over the 2 years of the project, visitors will take part in the seedling and plug planting part of the meadow restoration, as well as learning about meadow management and its importance, wildlife and species identification and the wider benefits the outdoors has on their own mental health and well-being. This will provide more opportunities for more diverse groups of people to enjoy, explore and understand the local landscape, whilst increasing public engagement.

AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED

- 1.2 - Habitats and Species
- 1.3 - Historic Environment
- 1.4 - Natural Capital and Ecosystem Services
- 2.1 - Farming and Land Management
- 2.4 - Community Engagement and Volunteering
- 3.3 - Discovering and learning
- 3.4 - Health and Well-being



LOCAL ASSESSMENT PANEL REVIEW

- The project scored well on all four criterion; Project outcomes, Value for money, Sustainability / Legacy of project and Ability to deliver.
- The project has encompassed all four outcomes of the Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme together with including several Forest of Bowland AONB Management Objectives, making this a successful application.
- Grant award total = £17,056.90