

## Motcombe Meadows Management Plans

Table 1 - progress update Sept 2009

Area	Original implementation plan for 2008-09	Achievements
<b>Ditches</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan ditch clearing schedule and resourcing (Do not clear ditches in the southwest of the site as the area is to remain wet. Remove any potential refugia from near the ditches in the summer and create new refugia nearby. Carry out the ditch work in the autumn/winter 2009 to minimise impact on newts in the area. Do a pre-survey check for presence of water voles before any ditch clearance commences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice taken on need for clearing but this needs to be turned into a schedule</li> <li>Pre-survey check for water voles done by Environment Agency</li> <li></li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out ditch clearance south of field 4 nearest proposed allotment site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ditch cleared south of field 4 as per plan</li> </ul>
<b>Hedges</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan hedge laying, in-filling requirements and resourcing (The hedges around the site will be laid in sections to add to the biodiversity of the site and leave a mosaic of hedges). Hedges will be laid outside of the bird breeding season and preferably during late autumn to winter to minimise impact on wildlife. The western hedges of the site will be left unladen to create a woodland boundary.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice taken on need for hedge laying. This concluded that most of the hedges should not be laid, although there is a section which is potentially suitable between fields 3 and 4. Instead hedges will be cut back as required and a schedule needs to be created for this.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lay and infill hedge to the north, east and south of field 4 around proposed allotment site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This laying and in-fill is not required, but hedge will need to be cut back as needed to prevent extensive ingress into field. Hedge margins trimmed back as part of field cutting process.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lay and infill hedge to the east of field 1 (along The Street).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The old hedge has been cut back as unsuitable for laying, and the new section of hedge is scheduled for laying in autumn 09</li> </ul>
<b>Grassland Meadow</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Let contract for mowing of front field to Gillingham Town Council and mow front field using GTC contract.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Front field cut under contract as planned.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll/harrow/top rear fields, shorter cut to create 'paths' around fields 2, 3 and 4. Top field and bail with tractor in August. Leave bailed hay to rot down near wet/pond areas for birds, invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians. These will act as refugia for reptiles and amphibians. Do not top the field in a straight line by the hedge – use scallops to create 'natural' feel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Paths have been naturally created by footfall around rear fields</li> <li>Rear fields cut and baled but bales taken by farmer as payment for activity. Natural feel maintained by trimming hedge margins.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise mowing arrangements for Summer Oaks and Prideaux Drive.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mowing arrangements for Summer Oaks and Prideaux Drive have been finalised, but mowing of the car park has fallen outside of contractor's scope and will be re-addressed by</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise dog fouling over the site.</li> </ul>	<p>MPC.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog fouling signs erected and most villagers are clearing the mess. There remains a small percentage that are not.</li> </ul>
<b>Trees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Native tree planting and infilling to the west of fields 2, 3 &amp; 4.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice taken on type, location and arrangement of wooded areas to plant taking into consideration potential revenue streams from the wood. Application for funding to pay for trees and ancillary equipment (stakes/guards etc) has been given to provide wooded areas in fields 2, 3 and 4, along with an orchard in field 3. Planting likely to be scheduled for winter 09-10.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear the trees around the pond in the south east of field 4.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice taken on this small seasonal pond, but still not finalised whether to clear area and deepen pond, or leave as-is. More advice required.</li> </ul>
<b>Allotments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allocate area within 18 acres for garden allotments, work with Garden Club to define fully and initiate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete as per plan</li> </ul>
<b>Wetland</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make contact for hiring a tractor and digger for the pond/scrape work according to DWT plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following various advice received, the scrape creation has been put on hold</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply to the Environment Agency for permission to work within the flood plain and approach them over grants for work that will improve flood defence and also water vole habitat.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress, needs resolution of scrape concept first.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply to Natural England for permission to work in water vole habitat.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress, needs resolution of scrape concept first</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Designate one or two people to attend training course organised by Dorset Wildlife Trust in water vole survey and identification. Contact Rachel Janes from Dorset Wildlife Trust about water vole survey training in September 08. September and October are good times to do surveys for water voles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notice issued for people to attend the course but with no response. Investigated potential of using past trainees to do survey without success. Training needs to be funded. Need to re-assess.</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence/gates/signage maintenance as required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gate along New Lane replaced and the bridleway improvements are in progress along western edge of Meadows. Extra ranch-style fence erected in field 3 to delimit vehicular access to allotments.</li> </ul>

Area	Original implementation plan for 2008-09	Achievements
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erect barn owl boxes in trees to the west of the site with the help of volunteers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signs for car park agreed and to be erected.</li> <li>Barn owl boxes (2 off) have been built, and suitable sites within the Meadows have been selected. Erection awaiting leaf-fall in autumn</li> </ul>
<b>Planning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicate proposed plans to village via Fete, The Villager magazine, and the website. Gather comments and incorporate to finalise.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Settle access arrangements for horses onto site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultations with horse riders in village have led to understanding of arrangements for co-use by riders and walkers</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gather information for 'Breathing Spaces'/ 'Access to Nature' funding and grant bid for 18 acres.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successful application made to 'Liveability' fund for money to create culvert bridges over ditches. And improve pathways at 'pinch-points' between fields.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make contact with the Woodland Trust about grants for trees and to be planted with volunteers help.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make contact with Piddlehinton Millennium Green to discuss funding of their project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate bridleway improvement in conjunction with GTC.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a map of the site with respect to water voles so future work can be carried out.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A preliminary water vole check has been completed by Environment Agency, but this is not sufficient to create the map. No-one attended training course to facilitate this.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate sources of funding for freshwater invertebrate and newt surveys of the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No progress</li> </ul>

Table 2 – Revised 5 year plan (Year 2 since Meadows inception)

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ditches</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan additional ditch clearing schedule and resourcing as required.</li> <li>Carry out scheduled ditch work in the autumn/winter 2009/10 to minimise impact on newts in the area. Do a pre-survey check for presence of water voles before any ditch clearance commences.</li> <li>Construct bridges across ditches to improve general access around site perimeter using Liveability funding.</li> <li>Source funding to allow one or two people to attend training course organised by Dorset Wildlife Trust in water vole survey and identification. September and October are good times to do surveys for water voles.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out ditch work according to schedule developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out ditch work according to schedule developed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out ditch work according to schedule developed</li> <li>Review ditch clearing schedule and re-plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out ditch work according to revised schedule developed</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Hedges</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan additional hedge cutting, laying, in-filling and general maintenance requirements and resourcing. Hedges will be cut/laid outside of the bird breeding season and preferably during late autumn to winter to minimise impact on wildlife. The western hedges of the site will be left to create a woodland boundary. (The hedges around the site will be cut/laid in sections to add to the biodiversity of the site and leave a mosaic of hedges of different ages/look).</li> <li>Investigate hedge laying course/competition with local YFC and/or Kingston Maurward.</li> <li>Carry out hedge maintenance according to schedule developed. This is likely to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedge along new lane (field 2)</li> <li>The hedges around field 4. particularly around</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out hedge maintenance according to schedule developed. This is likely to include as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedge along The Street (old section cut)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out hedge maintenance according to schedule developed. This is likely to include as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedge along The Street (old section cut)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out hedge maintenance according to schedule developed. This is likely to include as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedge along The Street (new section laid and old section cut)</li> </ul> <li>Review and revise hedge schedule after expert consultation</li> </li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out hedge maintenance according to revised schedule developed. This is likely to include as a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedge along The Street (old section cut)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
	<p>the allotment site, and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The hedge along The Street (new section laid and old section cut)</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Grassland Meadow</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mow front field under existing 3-year GTC contract.</li> <li>Top and bail (if possible) rear fields, shorter cut to create 'paths' around fields 2, 3 and 4. Top field and bail with tractor in August. Leave some bailed hay to rot down near wet/pond areas for birds, invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians. These will act as refugia for reptiles and amphibians. Do not top the field in a straight line by the hedge – use scallops to create 'natural' feel.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mow front field under GTC contract (final year).</li> <li>Top rear fields in August, shorter cut to create 'paths' around fields 2, 3 and 4.</li> <li>Bail the hay for removal.</li> <li>Mow car park as per agreed arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-let contract for mowing of front field, or source new contractor, or find alternative resources.</li> <li>Top rear fields in August, shorter cut to create 'paths' around fields 2, 3 and 4.</li> <li>Bail the hay for removal.</li> <li>Mow car park as per agreed arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mow front field using contractor or other resources</li> <li>Top rear fields in August, shorter cut to create 'paths' around fields 2, 3 and 4.</li> <li>Bail the hay and leave some to rot down for birds, invertebrates, reptiles and amphibians.</li> <li>Mow car park as per agreed arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mow front field using contractor or other resources.</li> <li>Top rear fields in August, shorter cut to create 'paths' around fields 2, 3 and 4.</li> <li>Bail the hay for removal.</li> <li>Mow car park as per agreed arrangements</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Trees</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation on orchard planting in field 3. Seek appropriate species that grow in the area by contacting the Dorset Apple Group (Bridport?). Add to planting activity as appropriate</li> <li>Plan for woodland planting using trees guards and stakes provided by MOREwoods funding scheme.</li> <li>Obtain expert advice on species, location and arrangement of woodland planting within fields 2, 3 and 4.</li> <li>Generate woodland creation plan</li> <li>Arrange and carry out planting using local workforce by engaging Villager and the School. Schedule for over autumn/winter 09-10.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of trees as required (Retain any dead wood for wood piles on site as wildlife refugia).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of trees as required (Retain any dead wood for wood piles on site as wildlife refugia).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of trees as required (Retain any dead wood for wood piles on site as wildlife refugia).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of trees as required (Retain any dead wood for wood piles on site as wildlife refugia).</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Allotments</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with MPC Allotment Sub-Committee and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As 09-10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As 09-10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As 09-10</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As 09-10</li> </ul>

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	Motcombe Allotment Association as required to ensure the allotment scheme remains true to the overall objectives of the Motcombe Meadows site.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review usage of allotments to consider expansion/ contraction of allocated area.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Wetland</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review scrape concept and revise plans as appropriate.</li> <li>Contact groups re pond west end of field 4 and generate plan as per advice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pathways</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete bridleway improvement in conjunction with GTC.</li> <li>Complete 'pinch-point' improvements in cut-throughs between hedges using Liveability funding to improve all-year access</li> <li>Complete allotment access path using Liveability funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pathway maintenance as required</li> <li>Other activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pathway maintenance as required</li> <li>Other activity as per revised plan</li> <li>Review drainage improvements to site to assess need for all-weather paths.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pathway maintenance as required</li> <li>Other activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pathway maintenance as required</li> <li>Other activity as per revised plan</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Car Park</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Erect signs in car park.</li> <li>Finalise mowing arrangements for Prideaux Drive car park.</li> <li>Replace dead trees in car park (Bloors)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass cutting as per arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass cutting as per arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass cutting as per arrangements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass cutting as per arrangements</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Other</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence/gates/signage maintenance as required.</li> <li>Assess need for notice board at Meadows entrance to inform of activity</li> <li>Erect barn owl boxes in trees to the west of the site with the help of volunteers.</li> <li>Confirm health &amp; safety assessment arrangements, Schedule regular reviews.</li> <li>Continue efforts to minimise dog fouling over the site via education and example. Investigate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence/gates/signage maintenance as required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence/gates/ signage maintenance as required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence/gates/ signage maintenance as required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fence/gates/ signage maintenance as required.</li> </ul>

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	<p>potential for area where dogs must be kept on leads</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirm drainage routes across site via Wessex Water or other as needed.</li> </ul>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Planning</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate proposed plans to village via the Fete, The Villager magazine and the website. Gather comments and incorporate to next revision.</li> <li>• Monitor access arrangements for horses onto site and revise plans as appropriate.</li> <li>• Investigate sources of funding for freshwater invertebrate and newt surveys of the site.</li> <li>• Approach the Dorset Bat Group and the Badger Group about carrying out surveys.</li> <li>• Investigate 'Land-lock' arrangements to protect area.</li> <li>• Discussion with Motcombe Memorial Hall trustees re placement/funding of youth shelter</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue consultation with Village and planning for additional land uses on site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate funding sources for and implications in provision of benches/seating around the site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate funding sources for interpretation panels as site wildlife matures.</li> <li>• Continue consultation with Village and planning for additional land uses on site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review wildflower meadow development to consider project to boost by seeding (seek local suppliers and carry out wildflower survey to determine how best to seed the site.)</li> </ul>