

A4B Allestree Park Meadow Creation Project

Project Summary	The project created 2 ha flower rich meadow in the heart of Allestree Park Local Nature Reserve and enhanced 16 ha. The project started in Year 2 although some preparation was needed in Year 1. The site lies within the Peak Fringe and the Character type Wooded slopes and valleys. Allestree Park (Derby's largest Local Nature Reserve) is located on the northern boundary of Derby City and bridges the gap between urban sprawl and the Derbyshire countryside. It has been a designated nature reserve for over 20 years and has become an important safe haven for wildlife venturing into the city.	
Lead Organisation	DerwentWISE Scheme Office	
Partners	Derby City Council Friends of Allestree Park Derbyshire Wildlife Trust	
Location	Allestree Park, Derby	
Duration of project	April 2014 – March 2019 Yrs:1-5	
Total cost of project	£35,745.00	
Volunteer time	£7,801.00	
In-kind time	£2,450.00	
Outputs	Original target <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 ha of wild flower rich grassland created • 10 volunteers trained in wild flower identification • 5 visits to the meadow by local school children • 6 walks or events at the meadow 	Achieved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 ha of wild flower rich grassland created & restored • 27 volunteers trained in wild flower identification • 6 visits to the meadow by local school children • 11 walks or events at the meadow
Headlines/added value	<p>Derby Parks have entered into an agreement with Natural England to restore the grassland and continue to look after the land in an environmentally sustainable way by grazing livestock.</p> <p>The DerwentWISE project contributed towards stock fencing, reseeding the 'Old Sheep Field' and provided the cattle to graze the site.</p>	
Outcomes	The 'Old Sheep Field' was reseeded, overall, the meadow community had developed noticeably from its beginnings in 2016 and it appeared that the sward maybe becoming more herb-rich, particularly where yellow rattle had become abundant and suppressed the growth of grasses. The restored meadow was cut and grazed as planned by the Grazing Comes to Town herd. The relationship between Derbyshire	

	<p>Wildlife Trust and Derby City Council on this matter remained strong, and the additional meadows had also been grazed by the animals. 24 young people and 90 children were engaged in activities including soil testing, sweeping for mini beats and flower and insect ID. Fun was had all and they have been encourage to re visit with friends and family and make comparisons back on their school sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A1 An <i>integrated approach</i> to natural and cultural heritage and landscape character conservation • A2 The delivery of <i>significant, long lasting improvements</i> to the condition (and extent where appropriate) of priority sites and features, and hence to the landscape character • A3 Long term improvements to the landscape <i>brought about through better understanding, engagement</i> of land managers and communities, and land use policies and activities <i>based on good information</i> • B2 An <i>increased public understanding</i> of the value of the landscape, and of the need for it to be conserved and restored • B3 Increased <i>engagement and capacity among landowners and communities</i> to care for the landscape in the long term • D2 Opportunities for <i>local people to develop skills</i> to enable them to engage with their local landscape and its conservation, and benefit from personal development and improved employment prospects • D3 Increased <i>knowledge</i>
<p>Any recommendations going forward</p>	<p>To continue to monitor the site and train volunteers in surveying skills.</p>