

Green Patch Wildflower Meadow

The River Nene Regional Park has awarded £22,000 for the development of a wildflower meadow to be undertaken as community project through the Green Patch (a local horticulture social enterprise), Kettering Borough Council and Groundwork North Northants. The development of the wildflower meadow scheme is seen as a key part for launching the far wider and truly exciting Ise Valley Meadows enhancement project.



How you can help!

The wildflower meadow is a resource that has been created for the local community to enjoy. Once it has been established, the meadow will be looked after by The Green Patch, who will need volunteers to help with the maintenance and promotion of the site. This will include raking of the hay, pulling up of unwanted species and organising community events.

Ise Valley: *The bigger picture*

The 'Ise Valley Meadows' is an area of approximately 40 acres. It is half a mile wide & about three miles in length running to the east of the Kettering town centre. The area is popular with walkers and provides a pleasant 'parkland' experience for many local residents.

The area is comprised of a mixture of good quality natural habitat together with large areas of open mowed grassland. Cutting a swathe through the area is the river Ise which is in good condition and offers some good natural wildlife habitats in its immediate vicinity.



Kettering Council together with other partners, would like to see the area enhanced to improve bio-diversity and create far stronger natural habitat. This could include creating wetlands along the Ise & restoring structure to the river by re-establishing meanders, lagoons & floodplains. We would also like to see access improved with up-graded footpaths

Project Ideas

- ♦ To improve the bio-diversity habitat of the area through extending wildlife corridors and introducing new flora and fauna habitat areas
- ♦ To provide educational opportunities for all learners about bio diversity
- ♦ To provide a 'green highway' between the south and north of Kettering town offering effective walking and potential cycling links
- ♦ Providing local people with genuine opportunities to engage in quality environmental projects that will impact on their lives