

Highnam Parish Council – Environment Working Group Progress

It was good to see those village residents who joined in with the 'No Mow May' initiative, which is promoted by the UK charity, Plantlife. Residents are encouraged to not mow their lawns during May (or even beyond that!), to allow the growth of native flowers which, in turn, help to feed the pollinator insects in the lean period before Summer flowers supply their nectar. At the same time, the village Pollinator Patches are starting to supply much-needed insect food too. A survey during early May, of the Maidenhall/Oakridge patch, identified ragged robin, meadow and bulbous buttercup, sorrel, red clover, sweet vernal grass, Timothy and cocksfoot already in flower – a veritable feast for the bees, butterflies and moths!

The Environmental Working Group (EWG), with excellent help from Wild Highnam members, continued with their brilliant work to make Lassington Wood more accessible to all. The pile of grit left over from the completion of the Oakridge footpath has been removed from the verge and re-deployed in the wood where the path gets particularly muddy during Winter. In addition, the wooden steps and handrails have been repaired and made much more secure for visitors to our beautiful wood.



I have to report the sad news of the first hedgehog death by poisoning this year. The large adult male hog was found in Mary Grove field. I would ask again that anyone who uses rodent poison, please only do that using proper bait boxes, so that innocent victims aren't poisoned inadvertently.

As you will shortly be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee in the village, why not take the time to walk around some of the areas you rarely have time to see? Check out our lovely wooden sculptures, take a saunter through John's Wood or Lassington Wood, or see how many different species you can spot in the Butterfly Crescent? Highnam is making good progress towards achieving our stated aim of providing an attractive rural environment which can be accessed by all residents. There is still plenty to do though, so if you would like to become involved with helping with any of the EWG's work, please contact Councillor Bill Badham. cllrillbadham@yahoo.com 01452 247112