



All Stretton Playground Nature Enhancement Project

Overview

This project enabled volunteers to create a wildflower meadow and new hedgerow on the site of a children's playground in All Stretton (Jubilee Park). This work has created an opportunity for local and visiting families to get closer to nature and receive health and wellbeing benefits from contact with nature whilst using the play area, as well as during the volunteer sessions which many people participated in. It is a partnership project with different groups involved – Restoring Shropshire's Verges Project, All Stretton Village Society, National Trust volunteers, local community members. The new play equipment was installed by the All Stretton Village Society.

Verge restoration

In August 2022 All Stretton road verge was mowed and raked by volunteers from the National Trust to prepare it for green hay. In September 2022 flower-rich green hay was donated from Gulley Green farm, Little Caradoc, and spread on the road verge by RSVO volunteers.

In October 2022 yellow rattle seed was spread on the road verge and also sown at Jubilee Park.

Plus plants were planted on All Stretton Verge during two volunteer sessions, in March 2022. In April and May 2022 the verge was cleared of litter and weeded.

In July 2022 work continued onto the verge in Batch Valley, with litter picks and weeding.

Jubilee Park wildflower meadow

In August 2022 volunteers helped clear Jubilee Park ready for the new equipment.

Volunteers sowed wildflower seed over three areas (total c 100sqm). They also cultivated wildflower seed to grow on and plant out when they became bigger. These plugs were planted out in March 2023 (see photo below).



Above: All Stretton Village Society and RSVP volunteers planting wildflower plugs (cowslip, water aven, marjoram, foxglove) in March 2023.

Hedge planting

In December 2022 a hedgerow of length c. 150m was planted, comprising native, wildlife-friendly species. The 600 whips were donated free of charge but the grant helped to purchase canes and guards. This work was continued into January 2023.