

Biodiversity: summary report for PC 16 September 2024

The project is making slow, but not negligible progress. The circular appeal to village residents attracted little response, and we clearly need to refine a programme which is probably too broad and unfocused. But the project is slowly finding its feet. We are already in a better position to register and act upon concerns about the condition of the habitat. David Brooks has done valuable work on building up spreadsheet lists of species, using the National Biodiversity Atlas to establish baselines for observations. There has been a steady trickle of reported sightings. Retrospectively, we could claim the agreement with NYC about part-night lighting as a small victory for the ecosphere. Ben K. has initiated productive conversations with bodies which include

- North and East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre
- The Woodland Trust
- Wensley Quarry
- Swale Meadows project

Possible next steps. Hold a further meeting of the working group in the autumn. Continue developing connections with the Yoredale Natural History Society, the NEYEDC, the Woodland Trust, the Rivers Trust project, etc. Continue developing our spreadsheets of observations. Organise a 'bioblitz' event – e.g. in Spring Wood. Contribute pages to the new PC website. Collate an anthology of photographs representing the variety of habitats within the Parish. Invite one or more speakers to an event (note the success of the Foxglove Covert presentation at the Women's Group). Contribute to the landscaping of the extended cemetery.

CBK 9 September 2024