

NEW PRIORY FIELDS MANAGEMENT/DEVELOPMENT PLAN

NEW WATER MEADOW

Present Management

- Hay cut once a year.
- This meadow was grazed by cattle or sheep so the grass would have been kept fairly short.

Future Management

- A hay crop to be taken annually. Cut a path from entrance to north western corner.
- Create access to field on northern side.
- Hedges to be trimmed as necessary.
- Any tree seedlings to be removed from meadow.

NEW MEADOWS

Previous Management

- Hay cut once a year.
- These meadows would have been cut for hay and then grazed by cattle or sheep so the grass would have been kept fairly short after hay cut.

Present Management

- Hay cut once a year. Hay is baled and removed from fields.

Future Management

- Continue with hay cut once a year whilst the site is being developed. Bale and remove hay crop.
- Cut a series of pathways around the fields for public, including disabled, access.

Hedges

- Trim as necessary.
- Plant up gaps in hedge with native hedging.
- Remove tree seedlings from meadow.

- Surveys to be carried out during growing seasons to identify species of plants growing in meadows that could be used for the basis of establishing a wild flower meadow and management implemented to assist any rare or unusual species which are found.
- Source local names for the meadows.
- Tree health survey to be carried out on entire site annually and any necessary action taken to maintain public health and safety.
- Management plan to be reviewed every five years.
- Aim to make fields more “parkland landscape” than “playing/sports field”.
- A Species Recorder should be appointed to record flora and fauna.
- Specialist advisers to be called in as necessary.

Badger Set

- Allow scrub and undergrowth to grow up around the set.

(Please note there have been occurrences of small dogs going down badger holes. The owners of the dogs could request that the dog be dug out. IT IS ILLEGAL TO DIG OR DISTURB A BADGER SET).
- Limited planting of native shrub species around the set.
- Mow paths to direct the public away from the set area.

Football Pitch Area to be relocated to the northern end of the eastern field and goals realigned east-west.

The western meadow to be developed as a wild flower meadow with limited native tree planting in field corners and along the eastern boundary to make an irregular path around the outside of the field.

The eastern meadow to be developed as a more formal area with mown paths and possibly non native trees and shrubs planted as features and specimen trees.

General information boards to be provided.

Plan to be reviewed in three years and amalgamated with plans for previously acquired meadows.

IDEAS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Mown maze

Living willow structures

Green burial ground

Pet cemetery

Arboretum – native or non native species

Nature/history trail

Assault course/orienteering course

Bird, bat and dormouse boxes

Allotment gardens

Additional picnic tables/seating

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