# FRIENDS OF MEADOW PARK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - AGENDA

7.30 p.m. WEDNESDAY 12th NOVEMBER 2025

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 6th NOVEMBER 2024.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT (Kev Gibbons)
4. SECRETARY'S REPORT (Kev Gibbons)
5. TREASURER'S REPORT (Andy Denker)
6. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE. (Kev Gibbons)

OTHER REPORTS:

7. Arboretum / Forest Schools / Work Parties / (Andy Denker)
8. Flowers (Gwen Mountain)
9. Birds (Kev Gibbons)
10. Leaflets and Website (Diana Jones)
11. Publicity (Brenda Lewis)
12. Butterflies, moths and bee worlds (Kev Gibbons)

13. OPEN FORUM
14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS
15. DATE OF NEXT AGM (Wednesday November 11h 2026)

*Note : Minutes commence on the next page….*

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 12th NOVEMBER 2025 AT THE PARISH OFFICE, EAST LEAKE.**

**Present:** Kevin Gibbons ( Chairman and Secretary), Andy Denker (Treasurer) plus 10 Committee members and 2 other members. Total = 14.

1. **Apologies for absence:** Mary, Neil.

2. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 6th November 2024 were ratified by those attending the Meeting.**

**Matters Arising: None.**

**Chairman's Report- see item 3.**

**Secretary's Report- see item 4.**

**Treasurer's Report- see item 5.**

**Election of Committee - see item 6.**

**Forest School, Arboretum and Work Parties Report - see item 7.**

**Flower Report - see item 8.**

**Bird Report - see item 9.**

**Leaflets and Website Report - see item 10.**

**Publicity Report - see item 11.**

**Butterflies Moths and Bee Worlds - see item 12.**

**Open Forum - see item 13.**

**Any Other Business - see item 14.**

**Date Of Next AGM – see item 15.**

3. **Chairman's Report 2025 (Kevin Gibbons)**

Sadly this year we did lose Trevor Jones, our former secretary and a stalwart committee member for many years. We will remember him.

Well..another year….another flood…….another drought. It has certainly been a year of extremes, and not without its challenges. The floods damaged the paths and washed away some of our dead hedges. But we've learnt, that we need paths made of stronger material (particularly the topping), and we need to stake in our dead hedges a bit more. We have also learnt that we have wonderful volunteers, who have put in over 1,000 hours of work this year, and now the park is looking as good as ever!. Of course the usual huge thank you to Andy and Conrad for all the additional conservation work they do in the park, and thanks to Andy for organising and leading the British Gypsum work parties and our monthly work parties.

Apart from all of the usual maintenance jobs, one of our key activities this year has been opening up some of our dense copses at the top of Hall Field, which were planted 25 years ago. We are making good progress on this, and now the light is coming in, and it will be really interesting to see how the understory develops, and what plants appear and I'm sure that we will see a greatly increased diversity of plants and wildlife in these areas. Already amongst the dead hedging which surrounds these areas we can see honeysuckle weaving its way in, and I'm sure that we will see a lot more of interesting growth…….nature is a wonderful thing!

Brenda of course continues to do a brilliant job with publicity for us, and has been able to step back a bit from her workload as she now has some new help. We are very pleased that Kevin Robotham has joined our committee and he has has taken over the email communications with members, and also that Diana is going to assist Brenda with putting information into the notice boards next year.

Diana and Mary have been doing some great work with the new bird leaflets and the membership form, and also revamping the FOMP section of the village website, which Diana will tell us about in more detail later.

We do now also have 2 of our local primary schools that utilise the park on a weekly basis for their Forest School activities and may add another next year. As usual thanks to Mary, Diana, and Andy who go down to the Forest Schools to help ensure that everything runs smoothly. I also did an "Act Of Kindness" day with some Lantern Lane School children and their teacher where we planted wild flowers in the park and a nature talk for the Brookside School children, and they particularly enjoyed seeing some insects that I took down to show them, including Brimstone caterpillars, a Poplar Hawk-moth, and Cockchafer beetle.

We also did a summer walk with Gordon Dyne and myself providing commentary, and this has reminded me that we should do more of these next year.

This year we have also been shortlisted for the Environment Award at the Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards.

I must say that we have a wonderful committee who have been involved in all sorts this year including:
- Meet the village.

- The village carnival
- Supervising the Green Climber work
- Supervising the scrub and hedge flailing
- Giving out our nature leaflets
- Organising wood chip deliveries
- etcetera !….Thanks everyone!

And here are a few recent comments we have received on Facebook this year….

– Thank you to all the volunteers who give up so much of their time to keep the meadow looking fantastic. Lots of people assume that maintaining a meadow means leaving everything to nature, but it takes so much more work than people think.

- Thank you so much you all do a great job the park was looking amazing this year despite the lack of water I visit every day and feel very grateful that we have this on our doorstep.

- Thank you all for keeping the Park looking so lovely. We are lucky to have such a great area to walk in.

- Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. My husband, four legged fur ball and myself enjoyed our evening walk and commented on how lucky we are to have the space that's looked after by volunteers xx

Next Year

We are currently working along the old trackway the runs north to south between Oak Meadow and Bateman Field, to ensure that the Blackthorn scrub does not take over Bateman Field edge, and the old trackway. A lot more light is already getting into this area, and we are re-establishing a hedge line. Next year we will look to bring the hedge back to life with under planting, to re-establish a good understory of wild flowers.

We plan to create another "bee world" next year and will do some more specific wildflower planting. We will plant, maintain and develop our existing hedgerows, as well as some more coppicing and thinning out of areas that have become overgrown.

Next year is not going be without its challenges as we deal with the new pumping station development and pipe laying which is slowly heading our way….it will be probably one of our biggest challenges in the park that we have faced for a long while, but I am convinced that with the enthusiasm and expertise on our committee we can use this to our advantage to hopefully get some added biodiversity benefits into the park.

I personally give my thanks to to all of our committee, our members, our volunteers, and to the people of the village who all help to keep Meadow Park a wonderful place.

4. **Secretary's Report 2025 (Kevin Gibbons)**

Another busy year dealing with all the normal e-mail traffic, and liaising with third parties such as RBC, ELPC, and various other third parties.

Membership is currently at 246, slightly down on last year, but still a good level of membership.

5. **Treasurer's Report 2024 (Andy Denker)**

## YEAR ENDING 31/10/2025

2024/2025 was a steady year for FMP financially.
The account for 2024/25 started with a balance carried forward of £1756.17, which was made up of £1340.02 in general funds and £416.15 in Arboretum Sponsorship.

Membership subscriptions and donations have remained very similar to last year, with the usual new member/non renewal balance. Membership subscriptions to the year end were £686 along with donations of £696, both amounts going to general funds. One very generous donation was received from David Wilson Homes of £133 for the purchase of limestone chippings for the limestone bank project.

Overall income for the year was on a par for last year with a total of £1382.00 which along with the opening balance of £1756.17 gave a total of **£3138.17** at the year end.

Expenditure for the year was **£1579.84** This came from general funds, items ranging from: purchase of hard hats, gloves, bow saws, loppers, hedge flail, printing of various leaflets [this was the highest purchase of the year of £644]
Good news on the bank charges – HSBC have from July this year removed the monthly charge of £5 for operating our account, although they still charge for deposits. Therefore Bank charges for this year were slightly lower at £62.11

With the income for the year being **£3138.17** and the expenditure being **£1579.84** the overall balance of the account as at 31/10/2025 is **£1558.17**
This is allocated as:
**General Funds: £1142.16**
**Arboretum Fund: £441.15**
The above totals will be carried forward to the 2025/2026 financial year.

Andy Denker
Treasurer Friends of Meadow Park
31/10/25

Please Note:
1] Outstanding payments to be carried forward to the next financial year: purchase of 800kg bag of limestone chippings for use on the limestone bank £160.26
2] The figures above are taken from the unexamined accounts.
3] The accounts will be forwarded to Mrs Susan Lewis for Independent Examination.

6. **Election Of Committee**

i) The existing committee members were all re-elected (including Neil and Mary who weren't present at the meeting, but wished to be re-elected).

- Proposed by Mel, seconded by Alan.

ii) Election of new committee members
Kevin Robotham was elected onto the committee.

- Proposed by Andy, seconded by Carol.

iii) Election of Chairman
Kevin Gibbons was re-elected as Chairman

- Proposed by Mel, seconded by Alan.

iv) Election of Treasurer
Andy Denker was re-elected as Treasurer.

- Proposed by Alan, seconded by Mel.

iv) Election of Secretary
Kevin Gibbons was re-elected as Secretary.

- Proposed by Mel, seconded by Diana.

The FOMP Committee therefore for 2025/2026 will be:

Chairman and Secretary: Kevin Gibbons.
Treasurer: Andy Denker.
Publicity: Brenda Lewis.
Elected members: Alan Barlow, Neil Hunter, Andrew Sandford, Ian Morrissey, Carol Barker, Conrad Oatey, Diana Jones, Mary Mays, Kevin Robotham.

ELPC Representative: Mel Roper.
RBC Representative: Paul Phillips.

**7. Forest School, Arboretum and Work Party Report (Andy Denker)**

FOREST SCHOOL

Over the last year both Lantern Lane and Brookside Primary Schools have continued to operate their regular Forest School sessions in the area of the 'log circle' - Lantern Lane on Monday during term time, with Brookside on Tuesday. Lantern Lane did not have an all day in the Park this year, with Brookside operating either half or full day sessions.

FOMP have assisted where necessary in providing materials for example den building and keeping the area safe.

Unfortunately on the negative side, due to further damage a second support post has been removed. The posts will not be renewed at this stage, Lantern Lane in particular have enough kit to erect the tarpaulin using the existing posts and adjacent trees.

There is now a further request to operate a Forest School in the Park, this time for pre - school children which are aiming to start around Easter in 2026. As we feel the 'log circle' area is up to capacity a second area within the Park has been outlined for use with the teacher involved very

happy to use the area. This is one of the Stonebridge copses which has been opened up with the removal of dead blackthorn and left open with the other areas closed off. This is an ongoing situation and updates will be raised over the coming months.

ARBORETUM:

This has been another year of stressful situations for the Arboretum and all areas of the Park and generally. With the early floods and then several months of little rain and high temperatures. All the new trees have coped well in these conditions and we will hope to see renewed growth in the new year.

The small group of Elm which have been reduced in height to see if they will survive Dutch Elm Disease, have continued to stay healthy and will be kept at this height.

The annual cull of the Poplar sucker growth was again completed – this seems to be a bigger area year on year.

The one downside issue in the Arboretum is the unfortunate damage to one of the best trees – the Wild Service Tree near to the Bateman road gate which had a perfect shape and glorious autumn colours. During the first storm of the year [September] the high winds have removed half the top side of the tree, The branches have been removed and used for dead hedging in the local copse. The tree, looking a bit lopsided, will be left in this state and continually monitored to see if any pruning will be required at a future date.

STONEBRIDGE BORDER:

The new planting of various trees in the Stonebridge border are mostly still surviving even though they have only been watered a few times during the recent dry weather. During a recent inspection there appears to be the loss of one Rowan, with one broken but still growing. The fruit trees still look healthy with the plum tree to replace the Fiesta apple still to be planted

Unfortunately the two Alders which we have planted nearer to Kingston Brook have both died. It seems we are doomed to failure with Alder in the Park with all plantings in various places we have deemed to be on the damp side having failed

WORK PARTY [see separate report for more details]

Just to repeat myself again from last year!! An extra major thank you is required to all those members who took part over the year, we have a very hard working dedicated team of regular volunteers on the workdays and also individuals/pairs/small groups who work on unscheduled activities along with many individuals from the community who keep the Park litter free. This has been added to this year with the bird survey, a weekly monitoring of our feathered friends.

Also a very big thank you to our friends at British Gypsum who through their volunteering in the community scheme have allowed staff members to volunteer with FOMP on a now increased level of once per month, usually on the second Wednesday. They have covered multiple tasks from gentle pruning to hedge laying and completed the brilliant task of removing the Poplar forest from the Arboretum. They contributed a magnificent 76 hours of work over the last year.

The hours worked this year have increased dramatically from last year with only loss due to high temperatures

The Scheduled Activity days covered every month throughout the year. They generally followed the management plan with the flexibility to move along various projects.

Activities included: Clearing area around the Jubilee Oak, Path/border clearance, Coppicing/pollarding, Dead hedging, Planting of bulbs, sowing of wild flower seeds, removing Ragwort, Himalayan Balsam, working on the Limestone bank and the regular litter picking. Work on Sculpture border.

Total hours worked – 347.25

The Unscheduled Activity days are carried out throughout the year and covered extra work required as necessary.

Liaise and assist in Forest Schools, wild flower planting, hedge laying, Coppicing, Cutting back of path overgrowth, Arboretum and Stonebridge tree inspections, watering trees, wild flower count, butterfly count, Bird surveys, nest boxes, bulb planting. Liaising with the Hay Cut, Green Climber. Sculpture border, Limestone bank.

As you can see there has been a big increase in the unscheduled activity, this will increase again over the coming months with the possibility of midweek working on the winter work on Blackthorn clearance reclaiming areas of meadow

Total hours worked– 654.75

OVERALL TOTAL – 1002 HRS AED 2/11/24

**8. Flower Report (Gwen Mountain)**

As previously stated in the July report 2025 started off very wet with the worst floods recorded in Meadow Park. Thereafter followed some very cold nights followed and then a very short spring as temperatures soared. This had an impact on the flowers with early flowering plants being delayed in flowering and the later ones having a short flowering spell as the high temperatures caused flowers to die back quickly. The unseasonably high temperature continued for several more weeks with short gaps of cooler and wet weather. As I write this report the temperature is very mild for November.

112 species have been sighted to date. Sadly the previous year's seedings did not in the main put in appearance. This year the pyramidal orchid was spotted for the first time. The Wildlife Trust reports this is a small orchid that has a pink flower spike with a pyramidal shape. It generally grows on chalk grassland, coastal regions, scrub, roadside verges, old quarries and railway embankments. It flowers in June and July Its flower spike holds up to 100 flowers. It attracts a range of butterflies and moths. The pyramidal orchid displays bright pink flowers in a dense pyramid-shape cluster at the top of its stem. Its leaves are long, narrow and pointed. It is widespread in England and Wales.

There have now been 159 species sighted since Meadow Park was first established.

Gwen Mountain 8th November 2025

**9. Bird Report (Steve Jones – read out by Kevin Gibbons)**

Throughout 2025 I have visited Meadow Park once a week wherever possible to conduct a bird survey. I follow a fairly consistent route that covers most of the park, and on each visit usually see around 15 different species.
I record all birds that are visible from within the park, even if they are located outside the boundaries of the park, e.g. on rooftops adjacent to the park, or are not directly overhead. I feel that what is of interest is the list of birds that a visitor to the park might see, irrespective of whether those birds are within the strict boundaries of the park or not.
The total number of species recorded in 2025 up to 22/10/2025 is 43. These include 38 of the 48 species included in the Friends of Meadow Park bird leaflets.
This year I have also kept a record of the locations of bird sightings. This has shown that, whilst most species may occur throughout the park, some are more localised.
In general, the most productive areas of the park for bird sightings are the areas adjacent to the railway embankment and Hall Field.

There are some birds that are present in the park throughout the year, but for which the population seems to vary. Over the next 12 months, I plan to try to monitor those variations for a few representative species.

The aggregate total of 44 species seen includes 38 of the 48 species included in the two Friends of Meadow Park bird leaflets produced a year or so ago. The missing ten species could all plausibly be observed in the park and I'll be keeping a particular eye out for those.

There are a couple of birds that are very common in East Leake generally but which occur in surprisingly (to me, at least) small numbers within Meadow Park. **Starlings** can be seen on rooftops adjacent to the park but are seldom seen within the park. When they are, it is generally in small numbers and in similar locations to House Sparrow. Similarly, **Jackdaws** can often be heard, and seen overhead, but the numbers actually within the park are quite small.
**Chiffchaff** and **Blackcap** were the most abundant summer visitors, the former being present from March to October and the latter from April to September. It will be interesting to see whether overwintering Blackcaps from Northern Europe arrive later in the year.
**Willow Warbler** put in a brief appearance in April, but did not stick around for the summer.
**Redwing** were recorded in small numbers in February and March, and returned in October.

My birds of the year so far (one-hit wonders, recorded only once) are **Marsh Tit**, **Tree creeper** and **Grey Wagtail**.

The next 12 months
I will continue visiting the park on a weekly basis wherever possible. I don't think there is any point in recording any more location information for the common species, but I shall continue to do so for those birds that are less frequently seen.
There are some resident species that are present in the park throughout the year, but for which the population seems to vary considerably with the seasons. Over the next 12 months I plan to try to somehow monitor these variations for a few representative species.
Steve Jones

23 October 2025

Note: Kev mentioned the additional information on Steve's detailed report, including distribution maps, and a copy of the full report was available at the meeting for people to read.

**10. Leaflets and Website Report (Diana Jones)**

In summer we produced two wild bird leaflets, each leaflet including 24 species of birds that can be found in Meadow Park. The leaflets complement the designs of the butterfly and two wild flower leaflets that we produced last year. There is a QR code beside each bird image, taking the user to the RSPB website, where they can read further information about that particular bird and hear its song.

Andrew Sandford had the idea of making all the nature leaflets more mobile-friendly for people to download and use around the park. So there are now two links for all the leaflets, the original downloadable version to print plus the mobile friendly ones.

Leaflets were given to the local Primary schools, Meadow Park Strollers and Brownies. They are available at the Library, Parish Council office and there has been a good uptake from the Leisure Centre too.

The downloadable ones have been used by schools which makes it easier for them and saves Meadow Park the cost of re-printing, which we would not be able to continue to fund. We had 500 of each leaflet printed and have reserved a lot of them to hand out at future Meadow Park stall village events.

The notice boards on the plinths in the park now have a QR code linking to the Friends of Meadow Park website for more information about the park and advertising the leaflets.

The general Meadow Park information leaflet and form have been redesigned. The map has been altered and enlarged so it is easier to read. These have been printed and distributed around the village and feedback has been very good.

The Meadow Park website has had bits and pieces added over the past years and really needed a revamp to improve the clarity and make navigation easier for the user. Mary and Diana have spent time with John Ollivere, who maintains the website. It isn't finished yet but already quite a few changes have been made.

Members present at the last committee meeting put in ideas and suggestions. So far:

- Items have been edited to make navigating the website more efficient
- The newsletter names which were previously just numbered, for example, Newsletter 45 have been renamed, (e.g. Autumn/Winter 2005) and are now grouped into 5 year blocks.
- The joining up form is on there which would need printing, completing and handing in at the Parish Council office.

When editing is finalised and prior to the meeting in January, Mary will email all committee members, and we would welcome feedback so we can discuss it at the January meeting.

We would like to thank John Ollivere for his time maintaining our website.

Diana & Mary
11 November 2025

**11. Publicity Report (Brenda Lewis)**

The usual tasks have been completed over the year. These include two newsletters (January and July), monthly reports for the two free newspapers, updating the village web pages, supplying information and photos for our Facebook page and keeping the notice boards in the park up to date. Mel Roper and Kevin Gibbons are the ones who post on Facebook for us. A number of

committee members send posters/information which can be put in the notice boards; e.g. butterfly sightings. We also had a stall at the village carnival on 28th June are members of the committee gave out leaflets and talked to locals.

The photographs of our work are extremely useful and a number of members contribute on a regular basis; however, I would like to give a special mention to Jenny Fisher as her photos of our work mornings are extremely useful.

Mary Mays and Diana Jones have updated our membership form and continued their work on creating leaflets showing what there is to see in the park. We now have a butterfly leaflet, two on wild flowers and two on birds.

I am extremely grateful to Kevin Robotham who has taken over the email communications with members and to Diana Jones who from January 2026 will organise two A4 posters for the notice boards informing villagers of what to see in the park at certain times of year.

Brenda Lewis
**Publicity Secretary Friends of Meadow Park**

## 12.Butterflies, Moths and Bee Worlds (Kevin Gibbons)

There were 22 species of butterflies recorded in the park this year, which is up on last year as it has been a good butterfly year. The the Brown Argus re-appeared and we sighted the Purple Hairstreak butterfly in the park for the first time.

Many thanks to Brian Johnson who made his usual transect visits into the park to do this. Here is his summary:

- 2025 gave us the sunniest spring and hottest summer on record, this providing good conditions for butterflies - a complete contrast to 2024's record breaking lows. With this excellent weather 35 transects were carried out from the beginning of April through to mid September. All of the 21 regular species of butterflies in ELMP (see Table) were recorded, plus one new visitor - the 'Purple Hairstreak' in July. With Oak trees being this caterpillar's food source, I am hopeful a colony of this little butterfly will be established in the future due to the many Oaks we have in ELMP. The Purple Hairstreak is not easy to observe as it spends 95% of it's time in the canopy of trees (mainly Oak and Ash) feeding on Aphid honeydew. Other good news is that the second broods of the Common Blue, Brown Argus and Small Copper doing exceptionally well with good numbers of all three in August.

Following ELMP hay cuts in July, the nectar source for insects is considerably reduced for butterflies/insects during August and September, with Ragwort being the main source. It would be helpful to restrict the hay cut in certain areas such as Little Meadow and the Butterfly Bank area. Both these areas are a good wild flower nectar source with limited hay. Also, the perimeter banks around Lagoon Field could be excluded from the cut.

(For more detail please see Brian's separate report).

I would just like to add that this year we extended the butterfly bank, and refreshed the bee worlds with new seeding in the spring and some plug planting. I continue to plant Dog Violets all over the park, and hope to attract some fritillary butterflies in ……...one day!

We did also have a number of wonderful dusk flying Scarlet Tiger moths in the park for the first time this year, and they are utilising the Green Alkanet plants (the caterpillar food plant) along the south side of the Arboretum, so hopefully we will see them again next year!

**Scarlet Tiger Moth**

## 13.Open Forum (All)

**Thank you to the FOMP – Paul**

Paul thanked the Friends Of Meadow Park for their efforts in managing the site and said that the improvement of the site over the years was amazing.

**Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards**

Kev stated that we have been shortlisted for the "Environmental Award" on the 10th of December. As Kev is unavailable to attend, he asked for any volunteers who could attend. Mary had already volunteered to attend, and Carol also volunteered. Kev expressed his thanks.
**Next Steps – Mary and Carol to represent us at the reward ceremony.**

**Park Improvements**

Chris Shelden asked whether we have spoken with our members with regards to what improvements they would like in the park, and how we could get more people to join the FOMP as members. Kev stated that we have looked at ideas in the past, such as creating a pond area, and also planting additional trees in areas such as Play Field, but that it was always difficult to reach a consensus on this sort of thing.

Conrad suggested that we could ask our members to contribute ideas.

Andrew stated that if we agreed on something that was popular we could pass it up the chain to obtain grants or other financing for it.

Mel asked whether we do need more volunteers on work parties? Kev stated that we get between 10 to 20 each session, but that more would always be welcome. It was suggested that we could be a little more pro-active in advertising the work parties on Facebook (say on East Leake Community News), or other social media platforms such as Instagram, or even at schools.

Kevin Robotham suggested we could even advertise ourselves in places such as the photography shop (The Studio) in the village.

Ian mentioned that managing the FOMP Facebook page was done by himself and we could benefit from extending this. Paul mentioned that you can have more than 1 manager on a Facebook page.

Ian suggested that we could try a late evening volunteer event in summer.

**Next Steps – Diana stated she would do a sort of "cafe research" on the membership / volunteering ideas.**

**Mammal Survey**
Kevin Robotham asked if we have ever had a mammal survey done.

**Next Steps - Kev (Gibbons), stated that we could investigate this to see if we could find anyone in the village who was qualified to do this.**

**Severn Trent – upcoming work……**
There was a lot of conversation about the Severn Trent work. Kev mentioned that he is attending an online meeting about this on Tuesday 18th of November, and has summarised the conversation of items requiring clarification below:

Important points for ST meeting 18/11/25

We will need a clear plan that will be signed off by all parties.

Surveys

i) For the pre-commencement surveys (for the meadows, hedgerows, trees etc), we would like to be present if possible. This survey must also include the brook. This information will provide the starting base line.

We would like to review the findings.

The route and pipework

i) We would like absolute confirmation of the route, and that it won't be changed.

ii) Will there be any compounds / storage areas etc in Meadow Park itself? if so where will they be sited and how large will they be?

iii) We would like to see images of similar work done at other sites, so we can understand what the work will look like.

iv) Is the trench really going to be 6-7m wide?.

v) How will they protect the surrounding grassland either side of the trench from machinery damage, what sort of mats will they use, as we believe that varies by contractor?..we want to minimise damage to the grassland,(particularly in the last field before the tunnel which is called Gibson's Field). it is very important to us and we want to know how they will achieve this?

vi) What will the pipes be cased with?….will it be gravel, concrete or some other material?

vii) The pipe will cut through the old Paleo channel of Kingston Brook in Gibson's Field, and there could be important archaeology exposed. How will ST handle this, we would like to see this in detail.

Contactors / Third parties

i) We would like to know the exact contractors (third parties) to be used for different parts of the jobs?

ii) will there be an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) on site, and if so who will this be? We would want to liaise with this person.

Protecting our ancient meadow grassland

i) Gibson's Field is our biggest concern here. The work will cut across an area that is ancient meadowland dating back to the Domesday book and beyond. This contains various notable species including Pepper Saxifrage and Dropwort. We would want the grass turf that is removed for the trench in this area to be stored and looked after in such a way that it can be replaced after the work. We see this as essential.

ii) When the topsoil in other areas is removed we would like this to be kept (as it will contain existing grassland an wildflower seeds), and then used when the trenches are being re-filled, ( this soil to be used for the re-fill at the very tops of the trenches).

Net Gain

- What will this look like for

i) The grassland?

ii) The hedgerows?

iii) The trees?

iv) Water course? (Kingston Brook).

The water course

Kingston Brook is likely to see a significant improvement in water quality.

i) What guarantees will there be with regards to limiting any sewage outflows into the brook?...we assume after this work that these will be negligible. How will we monitor this?

ii) We see this as a key area, how will ST provide us with an improved watercourse, including infrastructure, a gravel and stone river bed? Getting flow levels right will be key.

iii) How do we ensure this is a linked up process and that the Internal Drainage Board are fully in the loop (do ST apply for "drainage rights improvement with them?)We must ensure that the IDB don't come along later and dredge away the benefits that are made?

iv) We don't want anything stored next to the brook which could contaminate it or fall into it.

**14. Any Other Business?**

- **There is a one-off meeting to discuss how we work with Severn Trent and their third parties next year, this will be on Wednesday 26th of November in the usual meeting room at 7.30pm.**

**15.Date of next AGM**

Wednesday November 11th 2026 (tbc).