

### The Parish Field, Woolton Hill:

#### Biodiversity Update

This is a follow-up on the Parish Field statement in May 2021 which included:

*“...the PC will retain ownership of the Parish Field and maintain it as an open protected greenspace, with no buildings, to be enjoyed by the community. We will enhance its biodiversity and will continue to let the land for agricultural use...”.*



To this end we are in the process of undertaking two biodiversity improvements.

The first was in the autumn where two small areas were selected to plant wildflower seeds. These seeds are a collection of native species specifically for overseeding and enriching existing meadows or grassland areas.

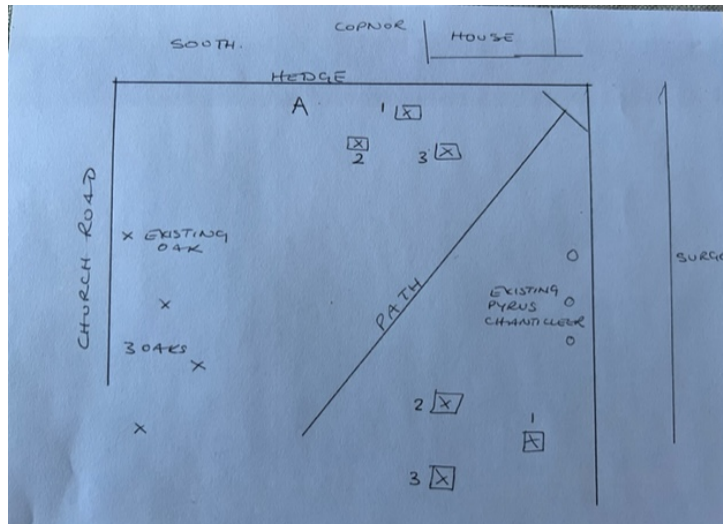
The 23 wildflowers contained are some of the most common in the British landscape and have been selected for their ease of establishment and competitiveness against grass and other plants. This seed mix consists of mainly perennial species plus a few annuals to establish a burst of colour from early summer.

For a complete list see [www.wildflower.co.uk/products/wildflower-seed-mixtures/100-wildflower-seed-mixtures/lwre-restore-enrich-100.html](http://www.wildflower.co.uk/products/wildflower-seed-mixtures/100-wildflower-seed-mixtures/lwre-restore-enrich-100.html)

During the year the growth of the wildflower plants will be monitored to enable decisions to be made about further planting within the field.

The second initiative is to plant 9 trees. The choice of trees has been done with sufficient variety to add character and diversity to the field without blocking views or light. The choices include rich sources of blossom and berries to help wildlife. The need to maintain key views has influenced the choices, but in time a degree of low (height) veiling will improve, rather than impede the views from and to the field.

All the trees will be at the south western end of the field with the three oaks near Church Road and the other six nearer to Trade Street.



One each of the smaller trees, *Crataegus Lavelle*, *Amelanchier Lamarkii*, *Malus Evereste* (see photos below) will be planted in both of the two groups (see plan). As well as considering views, all the trees have been selected to improve the interest of the field, without making management difficult and increase biodiversity. Once established the trees will also help absorb some of the excess water.

