

Nature First Forum

22 March 2021

Event report by Daniel Wareing, Secretary of Greenprint Forum & Environmental Sustainability Officer for East Suffolk Council



An online Forum to celebrate some of the regional and local initiatives to restore and preserve habitats and promote connectivity, sharing knowledge and inspiring others to take grass roots action.

This was our first attempt at holding a Greenprint Forum event online, and we were delighted to be accompanied by an attendance of 58 including individual members of the Greenprint Forum as well as representatives of 19 organisations and members of the general public.

Key milestones on Greenprint Forum activities

Plastic Action [Plastic Action » East Suffolk Council](#)

- over 80 volunteers registered on the scheme
- 1 virtual training session held in July and 3 held in October (as part of Suffolk Action Week)
- activities carried out by volunteers during 2020/21 included:
 - writing articles for local newsletters including the quarterly Greenprint newsletter;
 - arranging socially distanced litter picks;
 - encouraging their places of work or study to make positive changes on single-use stuff;
 - writing to retailers to encourage them to make changes; making allotment greenhouses from repurposed materials;
 - liaising with local councils for additional litter bins at hot spots;
 - using their web blogs, Podcasts, Whatsapp pages, Instagram accounts and parish council emailing lists to help spread the word;
 - some even contributed their time as expert speakers during the recent Siren Digital online festival by young people for young people in February;
 - two Champions who have made it their new year's resolution to combine their daily exercise with a litter pick and do at least 365 separate litter picks during 2021.
- [Plastic Action learning resources](#) promoted on our website as an online learning resource for teachers and home schoolers during lockdown.

Quiet Lanes [Quiet Lanes Suffolk | What is a Quiet Lane?](#)

- In September 2020, the initial funding secured by Greenprint from East Suffolk helped to leverage out even more funding from Suffolk County Council's 2020 fund to enable the project to go beyond East Suffolk and be truly county-wide project.
- Interest in the project has gone way beyond our initial expectations with over 40% of Suffolk parishes registering at least one candidate lane
- First signs having gone up in Snape in March 2021 alongside the soft launch of a concurrent awareness raising campaign to encourage all users of Quiet Lanes to take extra care with the slogan of "if you see this sign take your time".
- By the end of 2021, subject to local consultations and final sign off of designations by SCC Highways, we hope to see 200 or even more new Quiet Lanes designated county wide, with local networks of lanes created in some areas where neighbouring parishes have collaborated on selecting shared lanes.



Launch of Snape's new Quiet Lanes in March 2021.

Presentations

We were privileged to have speakers with us representing a range of organisations from a regional right through to grass roots levels to hear about their initiatives.

Cllr James Mallinder, Cabinet Member for the Environment at East Suffolk Council talked about ESC's flagship policy for nature, Pardon the Weeds, We're Feeding the Bees, now in its second year entailing the reduction of grass cutting in around 100 designated areas that the Council is responsible such as verges, public open spaces and churchyards down to just once in the autumn to give wild plants, grasses, flowers a chance to recover and support in time insects including vital pollinators. In addition James also outlined plans to reduce the use of Glyphosate – a 45% reduction has already been achieved, and alternatives such a foam control are also being piloted.

At its own headquarters in Melton, the Council has recently worked with Greener Growth to include nature on the site through features such as bug hotels, a wildflower meadow, and bird boxes (in addition of course to the swift nest boxes installed at the instigation of the Greenprint Forum shortly after the council occupied the site); and plans to include features for nature at the design stage of the redevelopment of the former Deben High School site in Felixstowe.

Michael Strand, Community Fundraising Manager for Suffolk Wildlife Trust joined our call to give us a preview hot off the press into the SWT's new project Team Wilder aimed at engaging with everyone possible from all ages and all walks of life and levels of organisation whether in school, work or leisure. The video that Michael played encapsulating the concept of Team Wilder can be viewed here: [Join Team Wilder - YouTube](#)

More information on Team Wilder will be available in due course as the project develops – in the meantime to express an interest in participating please email Michael via Michael.strand@suffolkwildlifetrust.org

[Welcome to Suffolk Wildlife Trust | Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#)



Alex Moore da Luz, Nature Recovery Officer for the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB / Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Project

Alex provided us with a pre-recorded presentation which covered the Nature Recovery project in the AONB which will be a part of a wider picture contributing to the recovery of nature nationwide entailing the establishment of a national Nature Recovery Network. The AONB work will engage partners to inspire and inform positive action to conserve what remains and take steps to reinstate what's been lost at a landscape scale.

Alex also updated us on current actions, including:

- teaming up with SOS Swifts on a project to install 80 swift boxes and 13 callers throughout the AONB;
- applying for funding from the Galloper Wind Farm Fund for a Leiston Loves Swifts project to install more swift boxes and callers alongside a swift awareness activities within a 5km radius of Sizewell;
- and the Shotley Gate Community Orchard Project part funded by the AONB SDF progresses with orchard trees and a native hedge planted with a wildflower meadow to follow. [Shotley Gate Community Orchard » Welcome To Shotley \(onesuffolk.net\)](#)

[Nature Recovery – Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB](#)

Dr Adrian Cooper of Felixstowe Community Nature Reserve [Felixstowe's Community Nature Reserve | Facebook](#) (all their content is freely available for others to use) gave us all an excellent introduction to this community project launched in 2015 which aims to bring nature to Felixstowe's gardens, allotments, window boxes and even apartment balconies. The project's 1650+ members are simply asked to allocate at least 3 square yards of their land to wildlife friendly features of their choice. The total area that members allocate to nature is well over the size of a football pitch! The results of the Impact Analysis carried out by the Felixstowe Citizen Science Group for the Community Nature Reserve can be viewed here: [Impact Analysis May 2020 - YouTube](#)

The work of the project complements well the work of others such as:

- Bredfield Wildlife Friendly Village [Bredfield: Wildlife Friendly Village | Facebook](#)
- Brightlingsea Nature Network [Brightlingsea Nature Network | Facebook](#)

- Ipswich Community Nature Reserve [Ipswich Community Nature Reserve | Facebook](#)
- Transition Woodbridge [Local Wildlife Corridors – Transition Woodbridge](#)
- Cosby's Community Nature Reserve (Leicestershire) [Cosby's Community Nature Reserve | Facebook](#)
- Pontos & Vida in Portugal [Pontos +Vida | Facebook](#) (in Portuguese).

Betsy Reid of Waldringfield Hedge Heroes talked about the group's plans to restore field boundary hedges in the parish which had become very gappy. Funding came from the Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB together with donations from local people and donations of trees from the Woodland Trust, and further help came from a local farmer with his rotavator and a local thatcher who donated straw for the mulching. The actual planting was done by teams of volunteers.

To enable hedging plants to be sourced locally in the future the village's tree warden has also taken up an initiative from the Tree Warden Network of disaggregated tree nurseries recruiting about 15 people in the village to gather and germinate local, native tree seeds, of known provenance, at home.

Betsy noted that the species that are likely to do best in your area are those species that come from that area naturally – probably worth bearing in mind when considering species composition for other hedge restoration projects elsewhere.

But concerns remain over how to keep hedges healthy and how flailing can be limited to allow hedges to grow as wide and tall as they should and as thick at the base as they should.

Stephen Harvey, Kirton Community Woodland explained how in the course of exploring how to create a new woodland for the community of Kirton in the wake of the destruction of some trees by a developer, a group was formed and started work with Trimley St Martin Primary School to build a tree nursery and taking the pupils out looking for acorns and other tree seeds – helping a six year old plant an acorn was an unforgettable experience.

Thanks to the advice of the Greenlight Trust, when the opportunity finally arose in the form of the land becoming available, the organisation was already in place, links with schools made, a bank balance, a mailing list of interested supporters, and some basic forest skills.

Stephen noted that though a task can seem daunting when it is just an idea, once it gets started it just becomes a succession of tasks to do with lots of enjoyment to be had along the way. So don't give up - all things come to those who wait!

[3 Village Woodlands \(kirton-suffolk.info\)](http://kirton-suffolk.info)

Charlie Zakss of Transition Woodbridge's Wildflower Verges shared with us a key lesson learnt by Transition Woodbridge in the course of their project to plant wildflower verges was to engage with the community and persuade them to support the initiative. In one site where this engagement failed, they had to backtrack and convert what had become a beautiful verge full of poppies back to a grass verge. This was a valuable lesson learnt, not to commence a project like this until complete neighbourhood support is secured.

The project has also encouraged people to let nature recover in their gardens, as inspired by the Felixstowe Community Nature Reserve. It has also created a laid hedge at Fen Meadow engaging the community, bringing young and old together, benefiting from water being provided by a neighbour and mulch provided by another local member of the community.

The community orchard now has 63 fruit trees watered by volunteers on a rota, and TW have also been planting pollinator bulbs accompanied by signage.

[Local Wildlife Corridors – Transition Woodbridge](#)

Jill Reece, Halesworth community garden and community engagement

The town has a 4 year plan with an aspiration to be a green town it has 8 green spaces but only owns one. Phase 1 Looking at the one it owns it has planted 9 trees 3 wild cherry 3 rowan and 3 crabapple which will all blossom with wildflower seeds in amongst and a wiggly path coming through which will be only bit mowed. 2 metal double park seats for people to sit on. Phase 2 to reflect residents desire to update upgrade and paint the childrens play equipment

Phase 3 proposed large flat green space for a community garden with raised beds and plots but on consultation not popular so a space for outdoor active activities Tai Chi arts classes exercises being investigated instead. Some vandalism issues with a tree pulled out.

In the other spaces resident neighbours consulted and they would like blossoming trees, wildflowers spread or in collections, somewhere to sit and picnic benches for families. The Men's Shed in the town will help make the picnic benches. The Environment Committee will hold meetings with residents at each site to discuss and agree plans. Community buy in is crucial.

The tree planting will be assisted by funding from the Sicon Foundation [Sicon Foundation | Helping have a Positive Environmental Impact.](#)

Graham Gibbs from Emmanuel Church told us about his wildlife gardening at his green oasis of The Paddocks IP21 5TR.

As well as veg gardens to support the household, wildlife is catered for too with berry-producing trees and well stocked bird feeding stations. and bird nest boxes.

The minibeast area includes minibeast mansion made from wooden pallets and wide selection of materials including bamboo canes and pine cones, with a dug out basement containing broken bricks to provide crevices for newts. There are two hedgehog houses and piles of rotting logs and sticks, with the minibeast area surrounded by hawthorn hedge on three sides and mature trees on the other for shading.

The site includes a pond with a small island sanctuary and a gentle slope. Intentionally, no fish were introduced as they would have competed with birds for food.

Animals at the Paddocks that Graham mentioned included birds (70 species counted at last Big Garden bird Watch), dragonflies, wasps, deer, hedgehogs, owls, bats squirrels, butterflies, bees, ladybirds, moths, and newts (great crested and common). The Paddocks Motto is: if the grass is cut, we live on it; if uncut, the wildlife lives on it.

Alan Collett of Aldeburgh's Amazing Swifts started the project with his wife Christine out of concern over the decline of swifts and a desire to do something, initially with the sole aim of

getting some swift boxes installed, which due to great support of residents and organisations with over 150 nest boxes now installed in and near the town, 3000 copies of the children's storybook Storm distributed and a series of awareness raising roadshows at schools held and a very rewarding swift rescue service started. Local people have also been engaged through "Welcome Back" parties in the town to mark the annual returns of the birds in a sociable way.

Alan emphasised the importance of involvement of the local community as a key part of the project, including a local builder who has put up the swift nest boxes around the town, the local vets, retailers, pubs and the library providing space for displays and promotions, with financial support from the Adnams, the AONB, Suffolk Secret Holidays and East Suffolk Council enabling the purchase of the promotional aids mentioned, and Alan urged others to engage with local schools to help bring their message to parents via the children and create opportunities for people to learn about and be inspired by wildlife.

The full video a short clip of which was shown during Alan's talk can be watched via this link:

[PROMOTIONAL VIDEO - Suffolk Wildlife Trust Activity Review - Bing video](#)

[Aldeburgh's Amazing Swifts – Help save Aldeburgh's Amazing Swifts \(aldeburghsamazingswifts.co.uk\)](http://aldeburghsamazingswifts.co.uk)

Lynne Alexander of Lettering Arts Trust outlined the Trust's exhibition "On a Knife Edge" due to run at Snape Maltings from 9th July to 7th November inspired by the State of Nature report [State of Nature 2019 - National Biodiversity Network \(nbn.org.uk\)](http://nbn.org.uk) as a way of capturing artistic interpretation of the issues facing biodiversity, incorporating collaborations with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and the Suffolk Poetry Society.

Lynne invited those on the call to contact her to discuss any opportunity to share information as part of the event, or to arrange a private viewing of the exhibition with their groups.

[On a Knife Edge exhibition - Nature in peril UK — The Lettering Arts Trust](#)

lynne@letteringartstrust.org.uk

Questions

Time proved too short to air questions during the event but the online set up enabled us to capture these and respond as follows:

1. There's often a problem with local town councils having responsibility for verges and going ahead cutting in spring regardless of wildlife. How do we ensure joined-up thinking on this?

East Suffolk Council does actively seek to engage with both SCC and all Town and Parish Councils to communicate its vision for how verges and open spaces are maintained and would encourage these and other landowners to accommodate nature wherever possible. Ultimately all tiers of local government whether County, District or Parish have to be mindful to reflect the wishes of their communities and members of the Greenprint Forum can help by letting their local councils – at all levels – know how they would like them to consider nature when deciding how to manage their verges and open spaces.

East Suffolk Council recognises its responsibility to explain to our communities why we think that managing our public spaces and verges in a way that better cares for wildlife is important, to counter perceptions that it is simply a cost-cutting exercise and secure greater public acceptance for more enlightened ways of managing land, and this is something that all of us like-minded people can help with through positive engagement to highlight the benefits to humanity of caring for nature wherever we encounter those with opposing views in our own communities and networks.

2. Why do they have to spray glycosphate around the trees & on our road and verge edges in quiet residential streets?

East Suffolk Council is currently in the process of reviewing its use of Glyphosate with an aspiration to greatly reduce its usage wherever possible. Already, a 45% reduction in its usage in play areas and public open spaces has been achieved during 2020/21 compared with the previous year. However in certain locations such as around bases of street trees and street furniture the control of vegetation is necessary to prevent obscurement for example – manual weed removal would incur a 33% increase in costs compared with Glyphosate, whilst mechanical strimming would harm the bark of trees and damage paint and structures of

street furniture. ESC is investigating an alternative method of vegetation suppressant in the form of trials of an organic solution called Foam Stream.

3. Who introduced a policy of using glycosphate? How did they justify it? Why is it still being used?

In East Suffolk the use of Glyphosate by the district councils would have been a decision by previous administrations at the former Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils. As mentioned above, their successor authority East Suffolk Council is in the process of making the transition from a grounds maintenance regime where the use of Glyphosate was the norm towards an aspiration of restricting its use to the bare minimum where no lower-impact alternative is practicable or available. It is now no longer in use at all at 144 of the 280 sites for which ESC is responsible, and its usage has been significantly reduced at a further 22 sites. However, we still acknowledge there is some way to go, but this process will take some time.

4. Why have lots of bushes been cut right back down by the Brackenbury Dip, likewise lots of bushes have been cut right back alongside Wolsey Gardens in Felixstowe? Also why have lots of trees been cut down along Candlet Road on Felixstowe?

The trees along Candlet Road are under the responsibility of SCC who arrange the tree pruning of these approx every third year this is not carried out by Norse or East Suffolk Council. The bushes at Brackenbury Dip shrub are tamarisk which are very fast growing and are programmed to be cut once a year (in the winter months). The shrubs at Wolsey Gardens are ornamentals that receive a prune (rather than a cut back) once per year as programmed.

5. Would be good to understand more about verges and cutting thereof. We get responses from ESC saying that Norse have the contract and it's not in the hands of ESC (in Halesworth and Westhall). How does this work and why is there not joined up thinking on this?

The way in which a contractor providing grounds maintenance services manages land is a decision for whoever the client is (i.e. the owner/controller of the land concerned). For example, where the land is owned by a Town or Parish Council, then that Council may enter into a contract directly with Norse for them to manage the land, and the decisions on how Norse will manage that land will ultimately be made by the respective Town or Parish Council. In another scenario, whilst East Suffolk Council hold the contract to deliver grounds

maintenance services on behalf of Suffolk County Council which Norse are delegated to deliver, i.e. alongside trunk roads, it is SCC who set out how that land must be managed.

All that said, East Suffolk Council does actively engage with both SCC and all Town and Parish Councils to communicate its vision for how verges and open spaces are maintained and would encourage these and other landowners to accommodate nature wherever possible. Of course, like other initiatives that actively care for nature it is crucial to have the support of people who live in the local community to secure acceptance and increase the likelihood of sustained success – so if you are supportive of an initiative to accommodate nature, regardless of who the “owner” of the initiative is, let them know so they can better understand the opinions of the local community.

6. Please can an indigenous hedge be planted all along the blue single bar fence that is all around the car park on Cliff Road, also the green at the junction of Golf Road and Cliff Road?

There will be a number of factors that would need to be considered wherever consideration is given to planting new hedges on public car parks and junctions, including any potential impacts on the amenity of neighbours, whether and how any existing infrastructure might be affected, and who assumes responsibility (and bears the costs) for the maintenance and upkeep of the hedge once planted.

It may be possible for East Suffolk Council to consider specific suggestions such as this where a more detailed proposal is submitted. One potential channel for pursuing this may be through the local Ward Councillor’s Enabling Communities Budget.

7. I am new to the area and moved here because of the natural environment. I decided to allocate some of my time to conservation volunteering and this is where I can see a possible issue. There seem to be several competing organisations for volunteers - e.g. RSPB, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, AONB (ESDC), Footprints (ESDC/NORSE), Nature First (Greenprint). I know some people in my village who do their own thing such as litter picks and I myself have cleared an area of beach and piled up some large items and then raised a fly-tip/litter case with ESDC which to my surprise actually worked. Does this rather messy volunteering landscape arise from having different land owners or land designations? I am not sure if others feel this is an issue worth trying to resolve?

All the different organisations have their own reasons for wanting the help of volunteers (mostly around lack of resources and the obvious education benefits of engagement) and tend to have very different requirements regarding recruitment, induction, training, supervision etc., and most potential volunteers will decide who to help based on their particular interests and geographical location.

That said some organisations do publish opportunities with other groups on a local or area specific basis, e.g. Greenways publish Local Wildlife News for the greater Ipswich area, which has news and events from about 15 local conservation/community groups and allows everyone to see the breadth of opportunities available. Similarly, the Dedham Vale AONB website promotes other conservation volunteering groups as we want people to go to their nearest site for environmental purposes.

Equally if your group would like volunteers from the community to help out with tasks on set dates e.g. work parties and you would like me to highlight your volunteering opportunity via the Greenprint Forum please let me know via greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk and I will if timing is amenable list in the events section of the quarterly newsletter or alternatively include in an email circulated to the membership.

And whilst organisations will have their own schemes for engaging with volunteers, one colleague has made the comment that they would all steer any potential volunteer towards the opportunities that best suit them, regardless who 'benefits' in the overall Suffolk environment.

8. Any chance of banning cars (except for access of course) from Quiet Lanes altogether?

Designating a Quiet Lane does not in and of itself impose any speed or access restrictions on the use of the lane by motorists or indeed any other road user.

Drivers' responsibilities are governed by Highway Code 218: "Home Zones and Quiet Lanes. These are places where people could be using the whole of the road for a range of activities... You should drive slowly and carefully and be prepared to stop to allow people extra time to make space for you to pass them safely." In essence, expect and respect – and an important

part of the current project will be a high profile publicity campaign to raise awareness of Quiet Lanes and the way they should be used.

Whilst the current project is limited to the Quiet Lane designation, once a lane is designated as a Quiet Lane, it does then open the door for the respective Parish or Town Council to make a subsequent application, in consultation with the local community, for a Speed Order and/or a Use Order, which respectively make measures to encourage road users to travel below a specified speed (but cannot be used as a means to restrict passage).

Resources for Community groups

If you've been inspired to start your own environmental group, or you're looking to take your group to the next level, Groundwork have put together this a handy guide with advice and case studies to help get you started: [Advice and Guidance to setting up a community group](#) and the Creating the Greenest County Team at SCC have compiled this report of current grant funding opportunities for community groups: [Grant Opportunities Report for Community Sector in Suffolk](#)

Wrap-up

This event was a great reminder that we all have a role in actively caring for nature. If we are part of a group with a project to actively help nature, then sharing what we're up to is a great way to inspire and challenge others to take action.

A key point emphasised by so many of our speakers was the importance of involving people. Projects like those talked about really need the support of the community – early engagement to explain the vision is important not only to identify potential volunteers but also to identify and address concerns people may have before a project starts, and be prepared to be flexible and alter plans to accommodate the wishes of the community in case the initial proposal proves not to be what they would want.

Even if we aren't in a position of leading on a project like the ones we heard about from our speakers the following are still great ways in which we can all help:

1. Developing our understanding and sharing what we learn with others via local our own networks and community groups – even if those groups aren't explicitly environmental or nature-oriented, the benefits that nature bring to us in terms of our wellbeing and humanity can have broad appeal.
2. Ensuring our homes and other spaces under our control if we are a business or organisation is as wildlife friendly as possible. The likes of Groundwork East [East of England | Groundwork](#) and Greener Growth [Greener Growth - Home](#) offer services to businesses and organisations looking to accommodate nature on their sites.
3. Contribute our time as volunteers to existing conservation groups for example:
 - Friends of Felixstowe Seafront Gardens [Friends of the Gardens \(visitfelixstowe.org.uk\)](#)
 - Greenways Countryside Project [Volunteering – Greenways Countryside Project \(greenlivingcentre.org.uk\)](#)
 - Landguard Peninsula Volunteers [Volunteering at Landguard \(discoverlandguard.org.uk\)](#)
 - Marine Conservation Society [Get Active | Marine Conservation Society \(mcsuk.org\)](#)
 - Portal Woodlands Conservation Group [News » Portal Woodlands Conservation Group \(onesuffolk.net\)](#)
 - Roadside Nature Reserve Wardens [Landscape and wildlife | Suffolk County Council](#)
 - RSPB [Find Volunteer Opportunities Near You - The RSPB](#)
 - Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB [Volunteering – Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB](#)
 - Suffolk Wildlife Trust [Volunteer | Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#)

(Please note some volunteering opportunities may be affected by Covid restrictions so always check with the organisation for current details)

You can also search for voluntary opportunities in the countryside via the website of the Countryside Jobs Service on which some organisations list their volunteer roles: [Voluntary Opportunities: Anglia \(countryside-jobs.com\)](#)

4. Responding to surveys, citizen science initiatives, formal consultations, calls for action and support pleas when made, and encourage others to do so too e.g.
 - Big Butterfly Count [Big Butterfly Count \(butterfly-conservation.org\)](https://www.butterfly-conservation.org/)
 - Big Garden Bird Watch [Big Garden Birdwatch | The RSPB](https://www.rspb.org.uk/what-we-do/conservation/bird-watching/big-garden-bird-watch/)

5. If we have specialist knowledge then offer guidance to others in our networks, if not a specialist then sharing the guidance of those who are.

6. And of course – taking time to enjoy and connect with nature and reinforce our appreciation for it. Let others know about the importance to human wellbeing of access to natural places so they can develop an appreciation too.
 - [RSPB Reserves and events](#)
 - [Nature Reserves | Suffolk Wildlife Trust](#)
 - [Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty](#)
 - [Dedham Vale AONB – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty \(dedhamvalestourvalley.org\)](https://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org/)
 - [Best countryside areas in the UK | National Trust](#)

And remember don't be overwhelmed or deterred from acting by the enormity of the problem on a global scale – we cannot expect to be able to solve the problems facing biodiversity on our own but the actions that we are able to take on an individual, community and organisational level all contribute to the wider picture.

If you're on Facebook why not check out these local groups:

- Bredfield Wildlife Friendly Village: [Bredfield: Wildlife Friendly Village | Facebook](#)
- Brightlingsea Nature Network: [Brightlingsea Nature Network | Facebook](#)
- Felixstowe's Community Nature Reserve: [Felixstowe's Community Nature Reserve | Facebook](#)
- Ipswich Community Nature Reserve: [Ipswich Community Nature Reserve | Facebook](#)

- Risby – A Wildlife Friendly Village: [Risby - A Wildlife Friendly Village | Facebook](#)

And here are a few generic non-place-based groups too such as:

- Wildlife Gardening Forum (run by RHS and RSPB): [Wildlife Gardening Forum | Facebook](#)
- Sharing Your Garden With Wildlife [Sharing your Garden with Wildlife | Facebook](#)

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to all of our speakers:

- Lynne Alexander, Alan Collett, Adrian Cooper, Graham Gibbs, Stephen Harvey, James Mallinder, Alex Moore da Luz, Jill Reece, Betsy Reid, Michael Strand, and Charlie Zakss.

And also those who contributed to the photo montage:

- Mariah Ballam Sandy Burn, Graham Gibbs, Susan Harvey, Josh Hunt, James Mallinder, and Sue Quick.

Slides from the powerpoint presentations by James, Michael, Betsy and Charlie, as well as the recorded presentation given by Alex, the photo montage, and a recording of the whole session, are also all accessible via the same link above.

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/east-suffolk-greenprint-forum/events/past-events/>

Attendance

Representatives of the following organisations were in attendance

- Aldeburgh's Amazing Swifts
- Boyton Parish Council
- Dedham Vale AONB & Stour Valley Project
- Emmanuele Church
- East Suffolk Council
- East Suffolk Greenprint Forum
- Felixstowe Community nature Reserve
- Felixstowe School Garden Project
- Greener Growth CIC
- Greener Peasenhall
- Greener Waldringfield
- Groundwork East
- Halesworth Town Council
- Lettering Arts trust
- Martlesham Parish Council
- Quiet Lanes Suffolk
- Rendlesham Parish Council
- Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust
- Transition Ipswich
- Transition Woodbridge
- Trimley St Martin Parish Council
- Waldringfield Scattered Orchard Group