The Church Field is held in Trust by the Lichfield Diocese.
In agreement with the Trustees, the Edgmond Wildlife Group is creating more varied habitats for wildlife and improving the area for recreation.
We hope you enjoy spending time here.

EDGMOND WILDLIFE GROUP
CONSERVE-IMPROVE

A Recreation Area & Overflow Church Parking

This is the main short grass area in front of you as you enter. We have changed the mowing regime with help from Edgmond Hall. The grass sward is now more dense and softer making it better for walking, playing and sitting.

This area is also used by church visitors when additional off-road parking is needed.

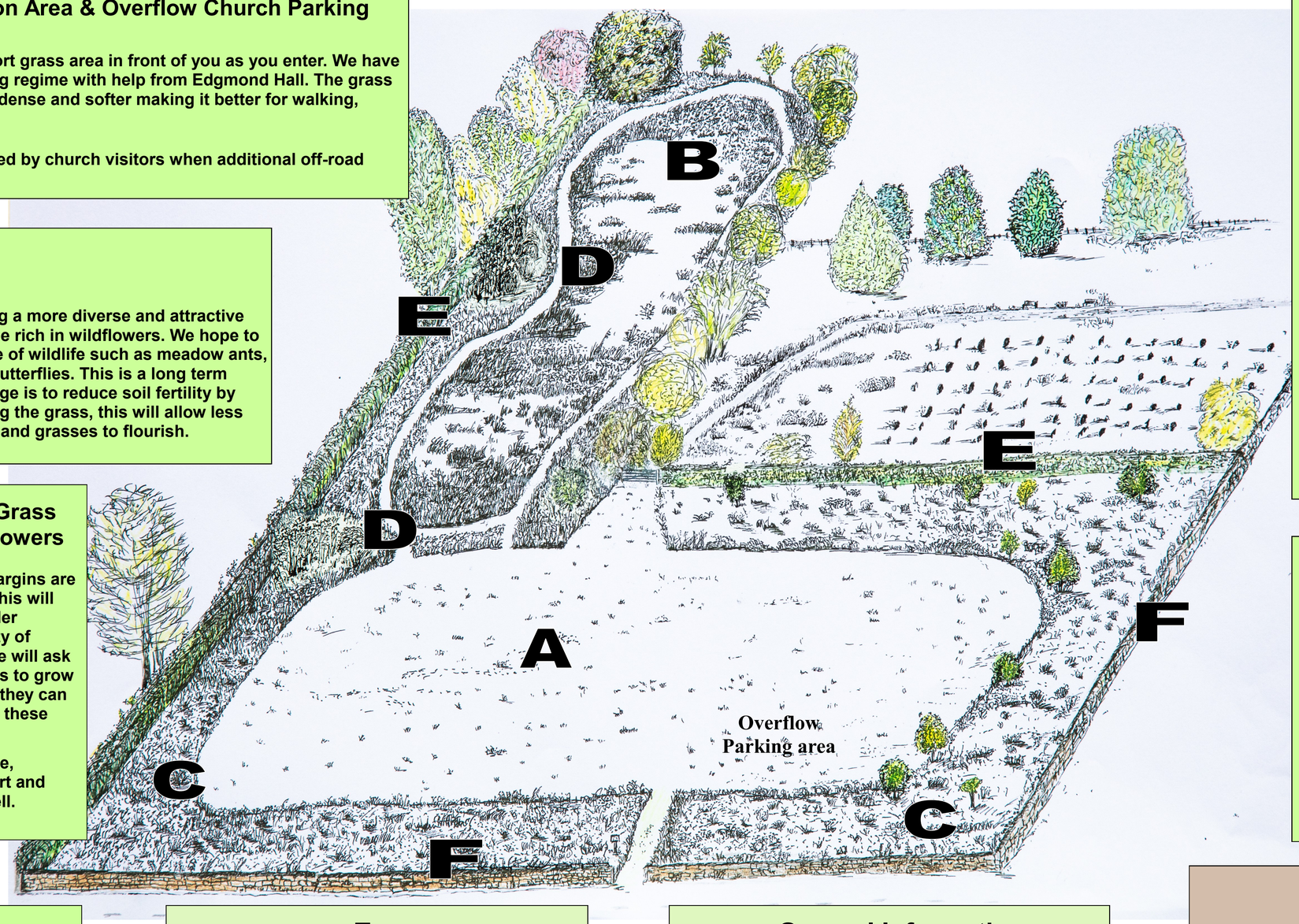
B Meadow

Here, we are creating a more diverse and attractive grassland that will be rich in wildflowers. We hope to attract a wider range of wildlife such as meadow ants, grasshoppers and butterflies. This is a long term project. The first stage is to reduce soil fertility by cutting and removing the grass, this will allow less competitive flowers and grasses to flourish.

C Tussock Grass & Wild Flowers

The Church Field margins are being left to grow. This will become home to taller grasses and a variety of hedgerow plants. We will ask our village gardeners to grow wild flowers so that they can be transplanted into these areas.

Look out for foxglove, bedstraw, herb robert and germander speedwell.



D Shrub Areas

The two shrub areas will be planted with a range of British small trees and shrubs like dogwood, guelder rose, hazel and alder buckthorn. Hazel is especially good for wildlife and is known to support over 300 species of animal, including woodpeckers, jays and nuthatch. Planting shrubs here will help to improve the appearance of the field and provide shelter and food for a wide range of wildlife.

E Hedges

Two hedges provide important habitats. One hedge runs across the field in front of the graveyard. This was planted just after the millennium and then later 'laid' in a traditional hedge laying style. It is a mixed hedge containing hawthorn, hazel, holly and field maple. The second hedge runs down the left-hand side of the field and is almost entirely hawthorn with some holly. Both hedges provide nesting places for chaffinch, blackbird, song thrush, goldfinch, robins and dunnocks.

In the winter the hedges produce fruit and nuts that are feasted on by a wide variety of British birds as well as visiting thrushes, redwing and fieldfare.

F Sandstone Walls

The walls along the front and right hand side of the field are habitats in their own right. The tiny ivy-leaved toadflax clings to the stones in many places. Butterflies hibernate in the crevices between the stones and amongst the ivy. Many other insects live here providing food for birds and small mammals.

Trees

The largest Oak (Quercus robur) can be found in the bottom left hand corner of the field. There are also some young oak trees and two horse chestnuts growing on the right.

Oak trees support 280 different species of insect. Squirrels, badgers and deer all eat acorns. Flowers and leaf buds of the English Oak are the food for the caterpillars of purple hairstreak butterfly. Owls roost in the branches and bats roost in the holes left by woodpeckers.

Horse chestnuts produce conkers and can live for 300 years. The flowers provide nectar and pollen for bees. Caterpillars feed on its leaves and provide food for blue tits and other birds.

General Information

The Church Field is registered as a charity and is managed by up to five Trustees. The Chair of the Trustees is Revd. Preb Helen Morby, who may be contacted at Edgmond Rectory. In 2020 the Trustees agreed a management plan for the field with Edgmond Wildlife Group (EWG).

The field will be managed to improve biodiversity and to encourage greater use by local people. If you would like to know more about EWG or find out more about what is currently happening in the field, then please visit our Facebook page or take a leaflet from the box. New members and offers of help are always welcome!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/edgmondwildlifegroup

PLEASE

- Respect the wildflowers and wildlife
- Look but don't pick
- Keep dogs under control
- Take your litter home

Enjoy yourself