



**FREETHORPE
PARISH COUNCIL**
*serving Freethorpe
and Wickhampton*



PARISH NATURE PLAN



The Parish Council recognises the problem of climate change and nature loss. It is committed to act to combat them in our parish. Our Nature Survey in 2022 identified six key areas for the Parish Council and for individuals to help us all become part of the change that's needed. Thank you to everyone in the parish who contributed to these ideas.

1. Promote good practice	We will encourage everyone... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to leave some space undisturbed for wildlife• sow wildflowers, plant flowers and trees• reduce use of pesticides• limit hedge-cutting.
2. Influence development	We will influence planning for... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• hedgehog highways• protecting trees and hedges• biodiversity net gain• protecting green spaces• better transport links
3. Develop nature corridors	We will work towards... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• more hedgerows• creating wildlife corridors• aiming for all boundaries to be hedged• more tree and hedge planting with landowners• verge cutting schedules for safety and wildlife
4. Create wildlife areas	We will look at our gardens and our public spaces for opportunities.
5. Install bird & bat boxes	We will look at our gardens and our public spaces for opportunities.
6. Consider tree risks	We will consider tree risks, threats and diseases.

These ideas came from the Nature Survey 2022

WHAT IDEAS DO YOU HAVE TO IMPROVE THE WILDLIFE IN YOUR GARDEN AND OUR PARISH?

1. Promote good practice	
<i>Individual garden ideas</i>	<i>Ideas for the parish</i>
<p>Bee friendly plants in raised beds + pollinators</p> <p>Use of natural weedkillers.</p> <p>The garden within reason is where I want it to be</p>	<p>Encouraging all residents to leave space in their gardens for wildlife, sowing of wild flowers, putting up bird/bat boxes, etc.</p> <p>Encourage use of water butts, compost bins, with a good price from council</p> <p>Promoting not to mow lawns so early</p> <p>Encourage reduction in pesticides – domestic and agricultural</p> <p>Garden competition?</p> <p>Limit hedge cutting to NCC recommended number of cuts</p>

2. Influence development
<i>Ideas for the parish</i>
<p>The Council expects the support of the local planning authority</p> <p>New developments should respect the trees and hedges that are in situ</p> <p>Leaving open green spaces and restrict new building developments</p> <p>Hedgehog highways should be included in new builds</p> <p>Better transport links</p>

3. Develop nature corridors
<i>Ideas for the parish</i>
<p>Wildlife corridors connecting Wickhampton, Freethorpe, Halvergate.</p> <p>General tree/hedge planting along field boundaries and roads in conjunction with Norfolk CC</p> <p>I would like to see a government initiative for all field boundaries to be hedged.</p> <p>Plant more trees, plants, hedge rows</p>

Litter picking groups

How about joining up the parishes around us with hedgerow corridors, starting with Freethorpe to Wickhampton? I could get materials and have experience to do this, but we would need volunteers. *(The Parish Council would be careful to ensure that plant species, varieties and provenance are controlled for biosecurity reasons.)*

Leave corridors for wildlife between Freethorpe and Wickhampton SSSI

Replace non-existent hedges and verges

The Parish Council recognises that Norfolk County Council owns and is responsible for trees on highway verges and maintaining the highways and safety. The NCC Tree Safety Management Policy applies. Requests for tree planting on the highway have to come from district council or parish council, not individuals. Boundary hedges and trees next to roads (rather than on the verge), though, are the responsibility of landowners.

The Parish Council should consider looking for evidence in support of Roadside Nature Reserves. These are managed by Norfolk County Council supported by the Norfolk Wildlife Trust.

4. Create wildlife areas

Individual garden ideas

To extend my 'wild garden' area, presently 5m x 3m and sown with a wide mixture of wild flowers.

To reduce lawn cutting and encourage clover and buttercups

I plan to keep a few wild areas in the garden and not weed during spring/summer

We planted 10 trees this year, thanks to the NCC initiative, where we applied for free trees. More people could sign up to this as they are doing this again for collection in December and planting Dec./Jan. More gardens need many trees.

More plants to help frogs and insects in the pond

We would eventually like a pond with a gradient. Young children at present. Also some fruit trees.

More wild flower planting

Ideas for the parish

I would suggest maybe a dedicated wildflower area. But the space is tight on any of the areas we own as a parish.

If free area, plant a woodland

Allotments – can encourage wildlife, pollination, food for bees if managed responsibly

More trees on the Common

Rewild parts of the social club area.

Plant fruit trees to attract pollinators

Less lawns being cut. Amenity grass being left to grow.

Parish Council recognises the difficulty of finding free land to use for wildlife areas.

5. Install bird & bat boxes

<i>Individual garden ideas</i>	<i>Ideas for the parish</i>
<p>Water source – bird bath</p> <p>Would like to allow hedgehogs but not possible due to concrete posts and gravel boards around entire garden.</p> <p>Increase water sources, e.g. new pond</p> <p>Swift, swallow owl boxes and bat boxes</p> <p>Put a bug hotel next to our wood shed</p> <p>To put up more bird boxes and insect refuges</p> <p>Bat box on tree or house if possible</p> <p>Possibly a bridge in pond for animals / birds to help entrance / exit</p> <p>Build or buy hedgehog home area for wild life area</p>	<p>Bee hotels, bird houses and bat boxes in public places</p> <p>Bird/ bat boxes / plant wild flowers along roadsides</p> <p><i>Care must be exercised when fixing bird and bat boxes to trees. Galvanised fixings are to be avoided. Straps are preferable. Parish Tree Wardens can advise.</i></p>

6. Consider tree risks

<i>Individual garden ideas</i>	<i>Ideas for the parish</i>
<p><i>If a tree owner ignores a disease and takes no action, and the tree causes damage or injury, insurance cover may be invalidated.</i></p> <p><i>Ash dieback is expected to kill 95% of our ash trees. Safe removal of dangerous trees can be expensive.</i></p> <p><i>Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) is a non-native insect pest of oak trees which is damaging to oak trees and public health. Inspections by trained personnel can identify the problem. Owners should be aware of the threat of OPM and monitor their trees.</i></p> <p><i>We need to plant the right tree in the right place. Tree Wardens are happy to advise parishioners on choice of species and location.</i></p>	<p><i>We need to plant the right tree in the right place. Tree Wardens are happy to advise parishioners on choice of species and location.</i></p>

Ideas are quoted from 24 responses received to the Freethorpe parish nature survey in 2022. Thanks to everyone who contributed.

Why are we doing this?

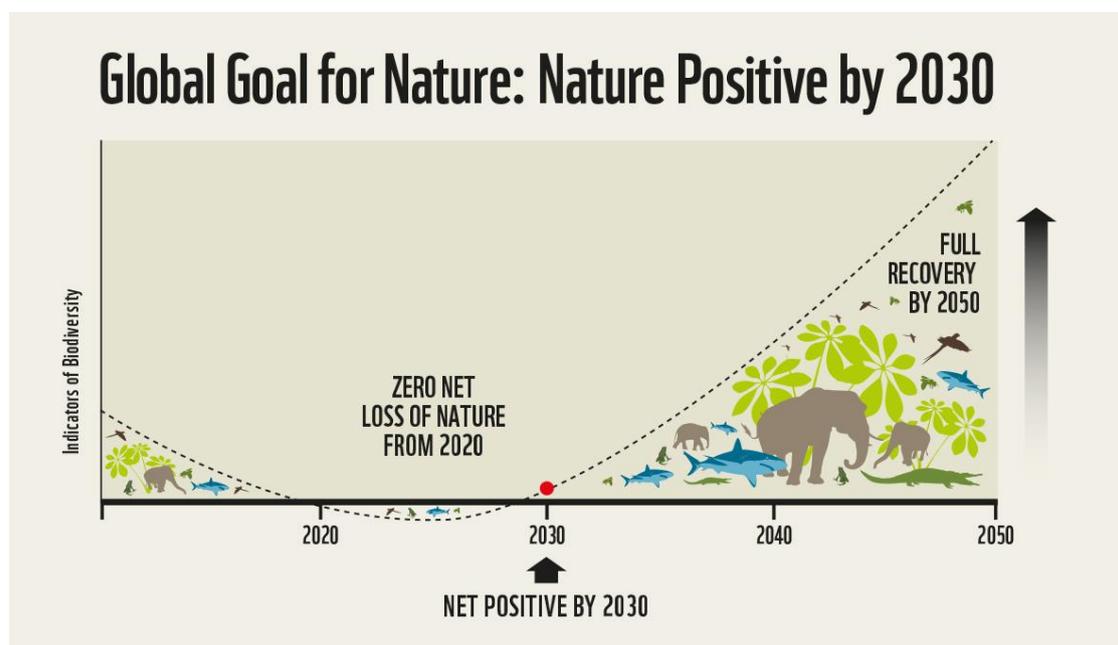
This is part of the Parish Council's response to the issues of biodiversity loss and the climate crisis, highlighted in the government report published in September 2021:

[Nature Positive 2030 Summary \(jncc.gov.uk\)](https://www.jncc.gov.uk/nature-positive-2030-summary)

The government report concludes that:

- Nature loss harms human health and well-being and undermines our economy
- Recovering nature is everyone's business
- We need to go high nature and low carbon, tackling the twin crises of biodiversity loss and climate change together
- It is not too late to become Nature Positive by 2030 in the UK, provided we act now

The government report recommends that businesses, organisations, cities and governments adopt targets to become Nature Positive – putting the crises of biodiversity loss and climate change on an equal footing.



Freethorpe Parish Council commits to its own Nature Positive Goal in the following ways through the Parish Nature Plan:

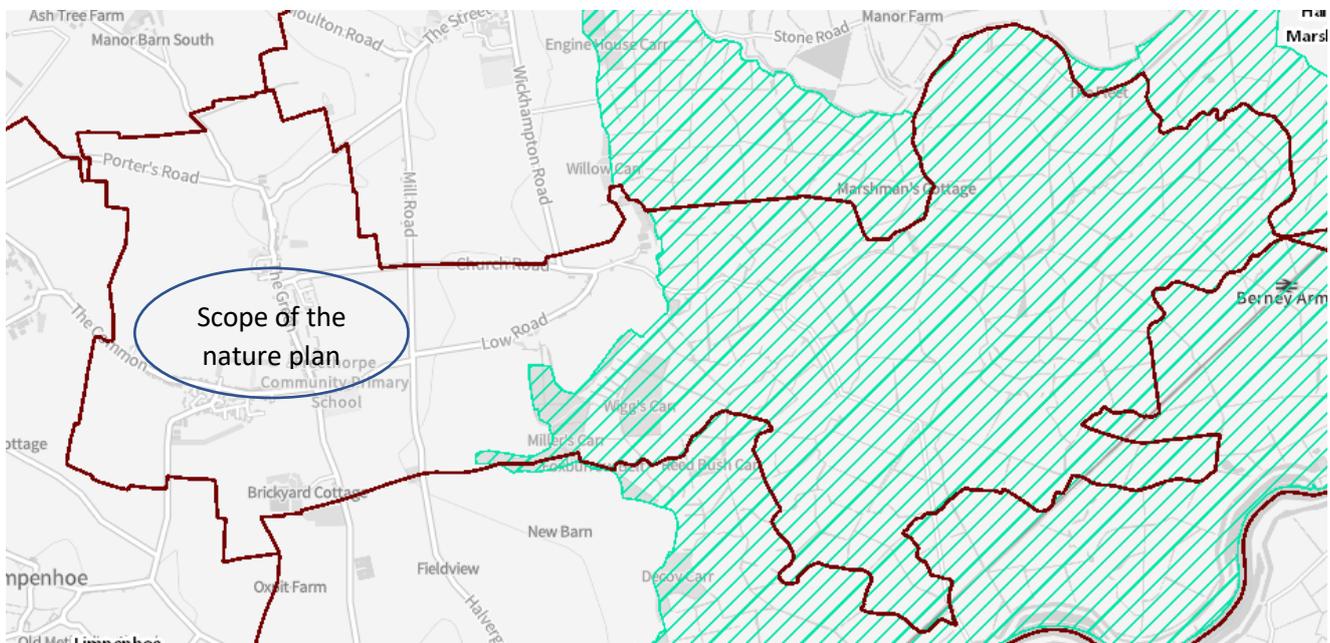
1. **Mapping and measuring** the nature in our parish
2. **Making plans** to reverse nature decline and increase biodiversity
3. **Publicising** our Nature Positive Goals and actions
4. **Considering** the nature and climate impacts of all decisions

Our people and our parish

The Parish Council	will shape the development of the Parish Nature Plan and make decisions and take actions in accordance with it
The Tree Wardens	already play a key role in this area and will make a major contribution to the Parish Nature Plan. Anyone interested in becoming a tree warden would receive training in all aspects of ecology. Please contact the Clerk if interested.
Volunteers	To be invited to measure and monitor as well as discuss and propose actions.
Organisations and landowners	should have the opportunity to consider the nature on their land and have the opportunity to play their part.
Members of the public	should be aware of the aims and actions of the Parish Nature Plan and have the opportunity to survey the nature in their homes, roads and gardens.

The scope of the Parish Nature Plan is the western half of the parish, which is largely residential and agricultural.

The eastern half of our parish is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (shaded green below). This is **outside the scope** of the Parish Nature Plan, as it is already subject to specialist measures and controls and its nature monitored by the Broads Authority.



Parish Nature Gallery



Gardens are vital to the recovery of nature, whether it's leaving wild patches or planting for pollinators. Our survey has some great ideas for managing gardens and creating wildlife areas. Photo: Youngs Crescent, Freethorpe



Green spaces are crucial for trees, plants, birds and insects... as well as our own health and well-being. Photo: Youngs Crescent, Freethorpe



Planters around the Freethorpe and Wickhampton village signs will brighten up our villages with summer flowers and help insects



Miles of new hedges have been planted by the landowner around fields in Wickhampton.



Blue tits are nesting in this (rather spectacular) birdbox at Wickhampton. And mason bees have made a home at a Bee House in Freethorpe. One of the ideas recommended in the survey.



Two belts of trees planted off Limpenhoe Road and behind the Methodist Cemetery are maturing and providing great wild habitat.



Freethorpe Playing Field – one of the public spaces where soil and trees and edges provide important habitat. The survey suggests more that we can do with our public spaces to help nature.



“Brock’s Meadow”, the oak meadow at Freethorpe. Oaks provide habitat for up to 2,300 species. A priceless resource for our nature. Our two tree wardens do a great job keeping an eye on the mature trees across the parish.



Setting aside conservation areas is an idea in the survey. Here are two already in operation –



– at Wickhampton Play Area and St. Andrew’s Church Wickhampton – with the wild flowers to prove it!



Dandelions light up Palmers Lane where once they adorned a whole meadow. The survey suggests that future developments should increase not reduce biodiversity.



Our three churchyards are nature havens, with precious undisturbed habitat. Wild primroses flourish at All Saints Church Freethorpe.



Forget-me-nots flourishing with ransoms on the edge of Wickhampton Pond.



Peacock butterfly on a dandelion, in a garden in Freethorpe.



The raised hedgerow verges along Palmers Lane (above) leading to Church Road, and on School Lane (right) are rich in wild flowers. They also form crucial corridors for nature between Freethorpe and Wickhampton.



There is a case for them to be regarded as roadside nature reserves. They certainly need to be cherished and protected. The survey recognises the balance in how verges should be managed for safety and for nature.



Badgers didn't make the 2022 nature survey. However, this beautiful creature was tragically run over in Freethorpe in 2023. It was buried humanely by a compassionate resident.



Half of our parish is an SSSI that stretches from Wickhampton Church across to Breydon Water.

Our nature survey focuses on the other half of the parish and the precious habitat and wildlife in our fields, hedgerows, public spaces, verges and gardens.

The survey celebrates the nature we have!

TELL US ABOUT THE NATURE
THAT YOU SEE IN YOUR GARDEN
& SURROUNDINGS?

Mammals, birds & reptiles

	Mammals		Birds		Reptiles	
Post code	No.	Examples	No.	Examples	No.	Examples
NR13 3AH	3	mouse, rabbit, deer	10	robin, blackbird, sparrow, blue tit, great tit, swallows, house martin, pigeon, jackdaw, crow, seagull		
NR13 3AH	4	rabbit, deer, hedgehog, cat poo in garden(!)	9	crow, blue tit, duck, jackdaw, house sparrow, pied wagtail, sea gull, pigeon, collared dove	0	
NR13 3AH	6	muntjac deer, voles, rabbits, squirrel, hedgehog, mice	20	green and spotted woodpecker, goldfinch, wren, robin	0	
NR13 3LT	4	mole, squirrel, vole, bat	11+	goldfinch, greenfinch, blue tit, blackbird, great tit, dunnock, house sparrow, starling, pied wagtail, pigeon, collared dove	0	
NR13 3LT	1	hedgehog	9	sparrow, collared dove, robin, blackbird, goldfinch, blue tit, great tit, crow, pigeon	0	
NR13 3LT	Y	cats!, bats, mice, hedgehog		pheasant, blackbird, sparrow, goldfinch, robin, blue tit, great tit, starlings, jackdaw, magpie, pigeon, dove, bullfinch, dunnock, wren, dove		
NR13 3LX		hedgehog (wildlife camera video), cats, bats		blackbirds, sparrow, pigeon, dove, starling, finches		frogs, tadpoles, fish
NR13 3LX		hedgehog, mole		pheasant, pigeon, seagull, wren, robin, starling, sparrow, finch, blackbird		
NR13 3LX		mouse, hedgehog, mole	lots	lots of black birds including young ones, doves, blue tit, robin, great tit, wren, starling (lots), house sparrow (lots)	lots	common frog, tadpoles
NR13 3LY						
NR13 3LY	3	mice, rats, hedgehogs,	11	blackbird, sparrow, goldfinch, great tit, blue tit, robin, sparrowhawk, jackdaw	2+	newt, frog

NR13 3NB	0			black bird, thrush, robin, pigeon, goldfinches, sparrow	0	
NR13 3NT	3	rats, mice, voles	16	robin, long tail tit, blue tit, cuckoo, sparrowhawk, black bird, starling	2	frog, common newt
NR13 3NY	3	rabbits, hedgehogs, deer (early morning through cameras)	8+	starlings, blackbird, seagull, robin, blue tit	2	frogs, newts
NR13 3NY	4	hedgehog, mole, rat, muntjac deer	35	jay, magpie, pheasant, rook, jackdaw, wren, blackcap, chiffchaff, willow warbler, garden warbler, swallow, swift, dunnock. House sparrow, great tit, blue tit, robin, hawfinch, green finch, chaffinch, starling, blackbird, pied wagtail, fieldfare, song thrush, collared dove, canada geese, reed bunting, hawfinch, pink foot geese, wood pigeon, gold finch, long tailed tit, barn owl, marsh harrier, sparrowhawk	0	
NR13 3NY	1	grey squirrel, (last hedgehog was 4 years ago)	25	so far this year. Female yellow wagtail, lesser spotted woodpecker, reed bunting	unk no wn	none seen, I doubt there are any
NR13 3NY	2	voles, mice	8(min)	blackbirds, thrush, sparrow, pied wagtails, blue tits, robin, chaffinch, pigeons, starlings, crows		
NR13 3NZ	22	hedgehog, rats, mice, field mice, Chinese water deer	10	blue tit, great tit, thrush, magpie, blackbird, cormorant, heron, jackdaw, wren, cuckoo	0	
NR13 3PA	5	rat, shrew, mole, muntjac, bat	5	finches, tits	3	frog, newt, grass snake
NR13 3PD	4	hedgehog, hare, grey squirrel	20+	yellowhammer, goldfinch, tawny owl, song thrush	0	
NR13 3PD	7	hare, muntjac, shrew, rat, pipistrelle bat, wood mouse, squirrel	18	woodpeckers, tits (great, coal, blue, marsh, long-tailed), greenfinch, goldfinch, kite, robin, marsh harrier, chaffinch, jackdaw, collared dove, wood pigeon, heron, pied wagtail, starling	0	

Insects

Post code	Butterflies & moths		Other insects	
	No.	Examples	No.	Examples
NR13 3AH	2+	cabbage white, red admiral		
NR13 3AH	1	large brown moth, light coloured butterfly		flies, spiders, mosquitos, beetles, bees, wasps
NR13 3AH	7	peacock, red admiral, painted lady, orange tip	6	mortar and honey bees, dragonflies, grasshoppers
NR13 3LT	6	orange tip, cabbage white, blue, red admiral, peacock, brown	lots	moths, hoverflies, flies, bees, beetles, lacewings, earwigs, caterpillars, aphids
NR13 3LT	5	brimstone, cabbage white, peacock, small tortoiseshell	6+	woodlice, centipedes, ants, wasps, bees
NR13 3LT		peacock, cabbage white, others		earwigs, ants, black beetles, wood louse, bumble bees, ladybirds
NR13 3LX		butterflies, moths		pond insects, ants, aphids, ladybirds
NR13 3LX		various		dragonflies
NR13 3LX	lots	cabbage white, peacock		beetles, green lacewing, black fly, aphid, ladybird
NR13 3LY				
NR13 3LY	15+	brimstone, large white, small white, comma, peacock, tortoiseshell, painted lady, hummingbird hawk moth	50+	damselflies, dragonflies, several bee types, wasp nest, froghopper, ants, beetles
NR13 3NB		Yes, but not sure of species		ladybirds
NR13 3NT	3			
NR13 3NY	4+	red admiral, cabbage white, common blue, meadow brown, silver-y	20+	beetles, earwigs, bees, wasps, flies, dragonflies, grasshoppers, ants, woodlice, ladybirds

NR13 3NY	lots	brimstone, comma, red admiral, peacock, painted lady, small tortoiseshell, large white, orange tip, holly blue, meadow brown, gatekeeper, small blue?, green-veined white, large skipper, cinnabar, green carpet, burnished brass, marbled brown, vine's rustic, white ermine, mottled beauty, heart & dart, flame shoulder, setaceous hebrew character, marbled white, rustic shoulder, treble lines, oak tree pug, pale ashouldered brocade, plume, elephant hawk, eyed hawk, brimstone, snout, peppered moth, buff tip, magpie, willow beauty, small wainscot, dark arches, spectacle, green carpet, mullein, poplar hawk, shuttle shaped dart, chocolate tip, willow & sallow, lunar marbled brown, bright line brown eye, marbled white spot, knot, square spot, hummingbird hawk moth, silver Y, smoky wave, footman, ruby tiger, bordered white, grass veneer, holly tortrix, rose flounce tabby, pyralidae, elderberry pearl, lunar yellow underwing, dwarf cream wave, mother of pearl, least carpet, small ermine, garden dart, V pug, common wainscot, coronet, black arches	lots	
NR13 3NY	5	brimstone, orange tip, ringlet, comma, (moths not recorded)	Un known	plenty of bees, ants, spiders, two-winged flies
NR13 3NY		red admiral, small tortoiseshell, small copper, peacock, painted lady (later)		hoverflies, bees, wasps - providing the plants in the garden don't die through drought we normally have much activity
NR13 3NZ	a few	red admiral		
NR13 3PA				
NR13 3PD	5	peacock, red admiral, hummingbird hawk moth, comma	20+	bumble bee, white tailed bee, dragonfly, damselfly (various)
NR13 3PD		usual butterflies, hoverflies, bees etc., including long tongue bee		bugs of all sorts but couldn't name them

Plants

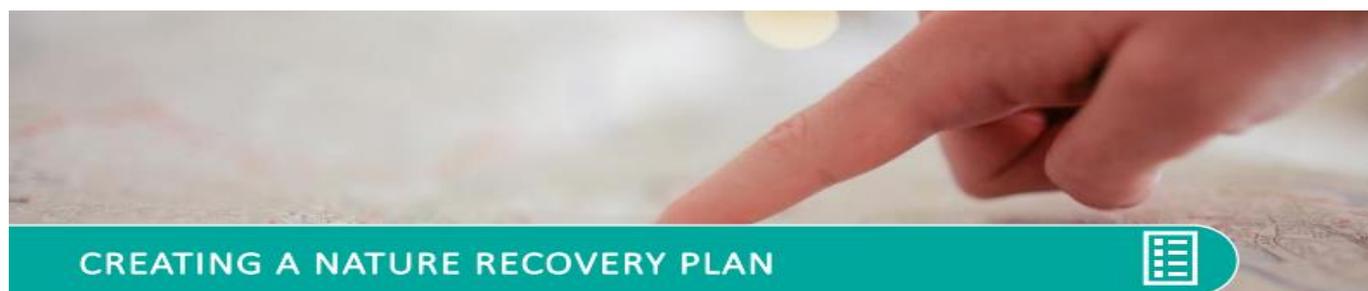
	Trees		Flowers		Other Plants	
Post code	No.	Examples	No.	Examples	No.	Examples
NR13 3AH	5+	horse chestnut, oak, ornamental trees & shrubs	Lots	Roses, pinks, lilies, penstemon, geranium		shrubs, rose bushes

NR13 3AH	6+	sycamore, pear, walnut, fir, apple, wild plum	25+	hydrangea, lupins, clematis, lobelia, poppies, lilies, wisteria, daff, dephinium, ceanothus, geranium, snowdrops		
NR13 3AH	11	horse chestnut, walnut, pear, plum, apple, holly	30+	buddleia, foxglove, borage, larkspur, bluebell, feverfew,	7	nettles, wild hops, wild bryony, hawthorn, blackthorn
NR13 3LT	2	cherry (Nigra and flowering cherry)	too many to count	aster, agapanthus, ceanothus, budleia, pheasant berry, mock orange, hebe, salvia x 3, flowering banana x3, tree fern, ferns x4, black bamboo, spindletree, hostas, roses x2, hyacinth x3, acer x2, cornus x2, jasmine, spiraea		A big ivy wall grown over ours and neighbours fence, holly and virgina creeper, which plays a big part in attracting wildlife to our garden
NR13 3LT	3	silver birch, pear x2, plum	30+	clematis, anemone, tall daisies, marigold, hydrangea, jasmine, iris	20+	laburnum, camelia x2, red robin bush, rose of sharon
NR13 3LT		pine, apple, elm, sycamore, plum, holly, beech, sloe bush		foxgloves, clover, sweet william, gladioli, catnerbury bell, evening primrose, primrose, roses		wall flowers, buddleia, californian poppy, poppies, lilies, gladioli, fuschia, etc., so many daisies
NR13 3LX		crab apple, damsons, apples, plum, cherry, fig, blueberry, medlar		sunflowers, poppies, jasmine, box, pond flowers, crocus, daffodil, tulip, buttercup, herbs, lavender, lilies, lichen, viola, marigolds, bottle brush, nastrucium, fuschia, holly, bamboo		
NR13 3LX		crab apple		various		

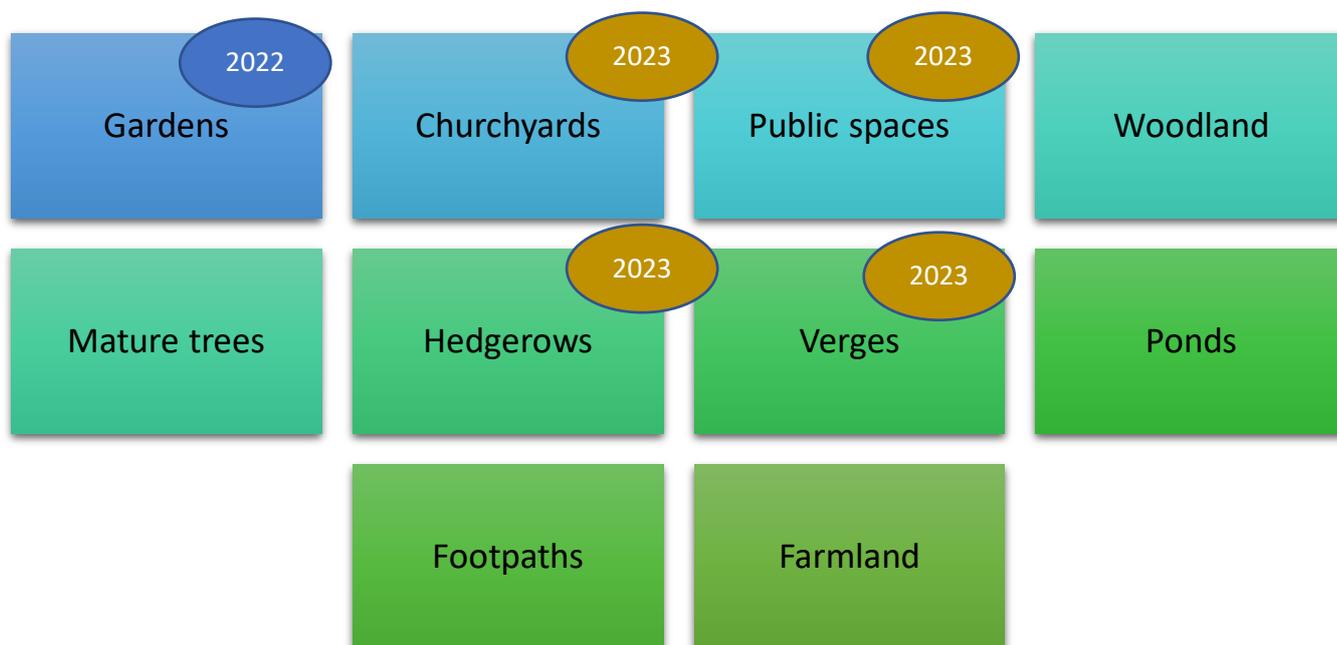
NR13 3LX		yew, privet, hawthorn, hydrangea, japanese maples, buddleia, clematis, apple, plum	Lots and lots	honeysuckle, aquilege, blue bell, daisy, rose, lupins, clematis, helleborus, elder, delphinium, poppy, scabious, moss, bindweed, dock, yellow oxalis, nettles, big & little hollyhocks, clover		
NR13 3LY						
NR13 3LY	10	ash, birch, rowan, hawthorn, apple, plum, eucalyptus, greengage, maple, olive	10+	rose, hydranga, poppy, daisy, plus many wild flowers	100 +	grape vine, herb garden, veg garden, climbers, holly, ivy, cherry trees, weeds
NR13 3NB	4		Lots			
NR13 3NT	6	cherry, apple x2, rowan, acer, ceanothus	30+			
NR13 3NY	8+	willow, apple, pear, magnolia, cherry, eucalyptus, silver birch	20+	roses, lupins, heathers, hebes, lambs' ears, lavender, rhododendrons	30+	rhubarb, potatoes, strawberries, herbs, radishes, lettuce, cabbage, beetroot, evergreens, holly

NR13 3NY	lots	oak, green beech, copper beech, sycamore, hazel, mountain ash, bramleyapple, cox apple, plum, pear, aspen, silver birch, crab apple, field maple, hornbeam, juniper, guelder rose, hawthorn, spindleberry, buddleia, lilac, laurel, bay,privet, cherry	lots	achillea, salvia, lavender, monarda, hellenium, single & other dahlias, scabiosa, berbenna bonariensis, santarini, roses, cosmos, zinnia, antirrinums, sweet pea, aster, fuschia, dephinium, foxlglove, coreopsis, ammi, geraniums, pelargoniums, nicotiana, amaranthus; wild flowers - borage, phaecelia, crimson clover, white clover, red clover, black medick, white campion, pinkcampion, bluebells, ragwort, mullein, lady's bedstraw, knapweed, mallow, poppy, mellilot, plantain, horehound, rosebay willowherb	lots	herbs, wild flowers / plants; shrubs: lavender, salvia, escalonia, buddleia, honeysuckle, elder; herbs - rosemary, sage, thyme, dill, calendula, tarragon, comfrey, mint, parsley, bay
NR13 3NY	7	silver birch, holly, laurel, hawthorn, cultivated apple, goat willow, plum	26	cultivated garden plants in flower (2/7/22)	62	Just counted quickly 62 wild natives. There will be more.
NR13 3NY	4(min)	apple, willow, larch,beech	many	sorry, too many to count	ma ny	sorry, too many to count
NR13 3NZ	Sev eral	sycamore, oak, plum, conference pear, granny smith apple, braeburn apple, willow				
NR13 3PA						
NR13 3PD	14	oak, yew, cherry, plum, hawthorn, beech, ash	20+	poppy (various), cornflower, foxglove, thistle	20+	shrubs (various)
NR13 3PD	0		?	moved in this year, most garden is gravel and decking but slowly planting	?	moved in this year, most garden is gravel and decking but slowly planting

The places our nature can recover



We have identified 10 areas in our parish where nature can recover, based on the Parish Nature Recovery Toolkit developed by the John Clare Countryside project: [Parish-Nature-Recovery-toolkit.pdf \(johnclarecountryside.co.uk\)](https://johnclarecountryside.co.uk/Parish-Nature-Recovery-toolkit.pdf). The 2022 Survey was looking at gardens. Four areas are highlighted for 2023.



Nature Area	Definition
(1) Gardens & allotments	Invitation to individuals to self-assess under the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corridors: boundaries to allow movement of wildlife between wilder spaces, e.g.hedgehogs • Green habitat: Hedging and trees for bird cover & nesting, low-mow regime • Homes habitat: Boxes for birds and bats, bee hotels, walls/stones for lichen • Food: Bird-feeders, planting for pollinators • Management: Water-butts, compost heaps, chemical-free, peat-free • Plus count species AMBER 0-1 LIGHT GREEN 2-3 DARK GREEN 4
(2) Churchyards	Seek agreement for volunteers to assess the three churchyards in the parish under the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corridors: boundaries to allow movement of wildlife, e.g.hedgehogs • Green habitat: wildlife areas set aside, hedging and trees, low-mow regime • Homes habitat: Boxes for birds and bats, bee hotels, walls, gravestones for solitary bees and lichens

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food: Bird-feeders, planting for pollinators • Management: Water-butts, compost heaps & chemical-free • Species: count of different species <p>AMBER 0-1 LIGHT GREEN 2-3 DARK GREEN 4-5</p>																												
<p>(3) School & public spaces:</p> <p>Freethorpe School Village Hall & Playing Field Wickhampton Play Area Freethorpe Pump Flying field memorial</p>	<p>Tree Wardens will be pleased to train/advise people to do assessments. Volunteers (or schoolchildren) to assess these areas in the parish under the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundaries to allow movement of wildlife, e.g. hedgehogs • Green habitat: Wildlife areas specifically set aside, Hedging and trees, low-mow regime • Homes habitat: Boxes for birds and bats, bee hotels • Food: Bird-feeders, planting for pollinators • Management: Water-butts, compost heaps, chemical-free, peat-free • Species: count of different species <p>AMBER 0-1 LIGHT GREEN 2-3 DARK GREEN 4-5</p>																												
<p>(4) Woodland:</p> <p>behind Chapelfield behind Old Chapel Road Brock's Meadow? Other?</p>	<p>Seek agreement from landowners for Tree Wardens to assess, supported by volunteers, criteria to be defined by Tree Wardens, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maturity • Variety • Homes habitat • Management • Species: count of different species • Area & density <p>AMBER LIGHT GREEN DARK GREEN</p>																												
<p>(5) Mature Trees, per road/area of the parish</p>	<p>Consideration of tree risks, threats and diseases.</p> <p>Guidance from tree wardens, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maturity • Variety • Protection by TPOs • Homes habitat • Management • Species: count of different species <p>AMBER LIGHT GREEN DARK GREEN</p>																												
<p>(6) Hedgerows, per road/area of the parish</p>	<p>Volunteers would need rudimentary training and instruction, particularly with regard to safety and visibility protocols. Volunteers to assess these areas in the parish under the following 3 criteria:</p> <p>CLASSIFICATION</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Classification</th> <th>Good</th> <th>Average</th> <th>Poor</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Tree in hedge</td> <td>Every 10 -20m</td> <td>Occasional</td> <td>Absent</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Species</td> <td>5 or more tree species with similar frequency</td> <td>Mixed but with 1 or 2 dominant species</td> <td>1 or 2 species</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Width</td> <td>2-4m wide</td> <td>1m – 2m wide</td> <td>< 1m wide</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Height</td> <td>3-5m tall</td> <td>1-3m tall, leggy</td> <td>Up to 1m tall</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integrity</td> <td>No gaps</td> <td>Some gaps</td> <td>Many gaps</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Management</td> <td>Sides cut on rotation, trees allowed to flower and fruit, layered every 10 – 15 years</td> <td>Trimmed every couple of years, some trees able to flower and fruit</td> <td>Severely cut annually, uniform shape along length</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>AMBER Poor LIGHT GREEN Average DARK GREEN Good</p>	Classification	Good	Average	Poor	Tree in hedge	Every 10 -20m	Occasional	Absent	Species	5 or more tree species with similar frequency	Mixed but with 1 or 2 dominant species	1 or 2 species	Width	2-4m wide	1m – 2m wide	< 1m wide	Height	3-5m tall	1-3m tall, leggy	Up to 1m tall	Integrity	No gaps	Some gaps	Many gaps	Management	Sides cut on rotation, trees allowed to flower and fruit, layered every 10 – 15 years	Trimmed every couple of years, some trees able to flower and fruit	Severely cut annually, uniform shape along length
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<p>(7) Roadside Verges, per road/area of the parish</p>	<p>Volunteers to assess these areas in the parish under the following criteria</p> <p>Good A grassland with many wildflowers and grasses providing food and refuge for insects</p> <p>Average A grassland with some wildflowers but a limited number of species and with some weed species</p>																												

	<p>Poor A grassland with mostly weeds such as thistle, nettle, cleavers, bindweed and vigorous grasses ;cocksfoot, wall barley, false oatgrasses</p> <p>Also recording:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management: responsible mowing regime • Species: count of different species • Zones (2 (short for flowers), 3 (taller herbs/grasses), 4 (hedging)) • Verge width, length and area <p>Managing grassland road verges 2020.pdf (plantlife.org.uk)</p>
(8) Ponds Wickhampton + any other privately owned	Primary purpose at this stage is to record their existence
(9) Access and footpaths	Primary purpose at this stage is to record their existence
(10) Farmland	Primary purpose at this stage is to engage with landowners for advice on how they already assess environmental aspects, and what they could share.

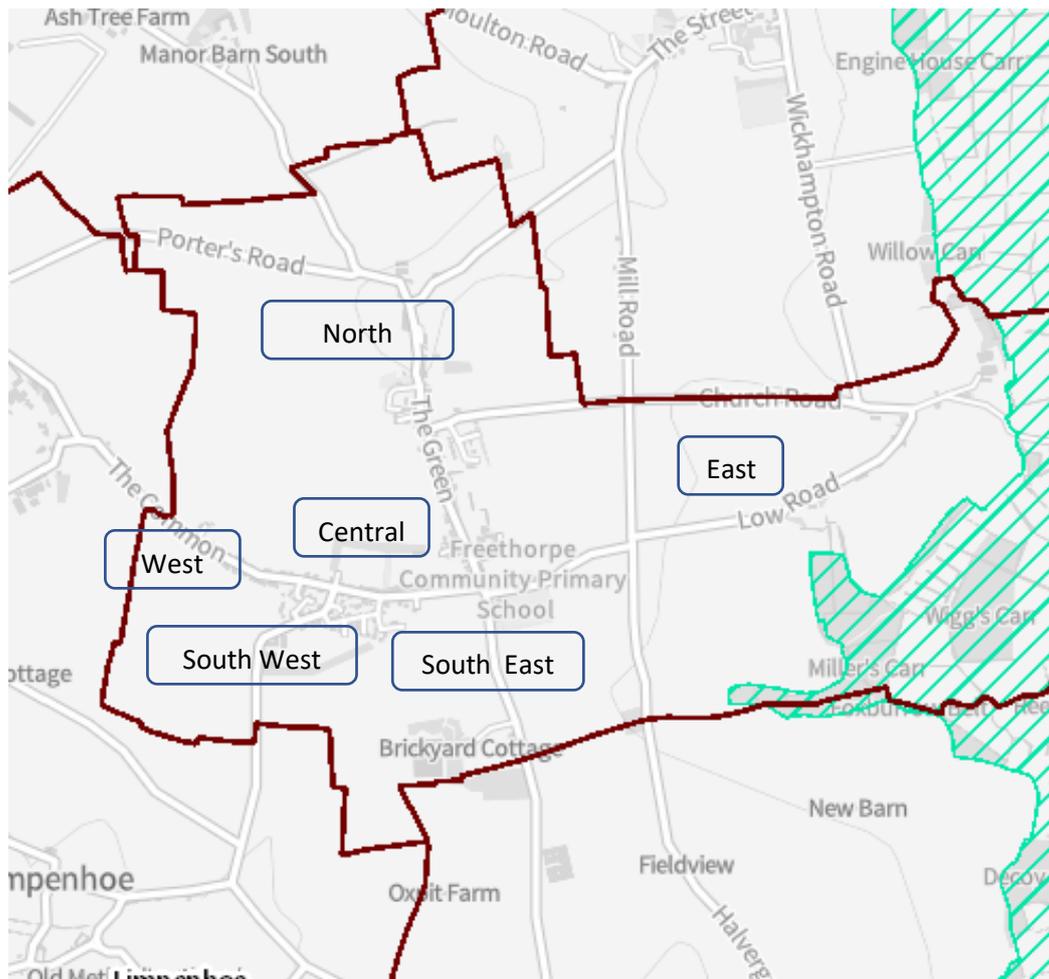
Gardens self-assessment 2022

People in our parish assessed their own gardens against the criteria in the Nature Recovery Toolkit. The scores are 1=none 2=a few 3=plenty 4=a lot

Species and food scored highly. Availability of water, habitat for animal homes, corridors and management of gardens for wildlife scored lower and are areas we might want to improve.

Post code	Species	Food	Water	Green habitat	Homes habitat	Corridors	Management
NR13 3AH	3	3	2	3	2	2	2
NR13 3AH	3	3	3	3	3	2	3
NR13 3AH	4	3	2	4	2	4	4
NR13 3LT	3	3	3	2	3	2	2
NR13 3LT	4	4	3	4	3	2	4
NR13 3LT	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
NR13 3LX	4	3	3	3	3	3	3
NR13 3LX	4	4	4	2	2	4	2
NR13 3LX	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
NR13 3LY	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
NR13 3LY	4	4	4	4	4	2	3
NR13 3NB	2	3	1	3	2	1	1
NR13 3NT	3	3	3	3	2	1	3
NR13 3NY	4	3	2	3	2	2	2
NR13 3NY	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
NR13 3NY	4	4	3	4	4	2	4
NR13 3NY	3	3	3	3	2	2	3
NR13 3NZ	3	4	4	4	4	4	4
NR13 3PA	4	4	3	4	3	3	4
NR13 3PD	4	4	3	4	4	4	4
NR13 3PD	3	3	2	2	3	1	2
Average	3.5	3.5	3.0	3.3	3.0	2.7	3.1

Areas of the parish for analysis



<p>North: Porter's Rd, Halvergate Rd & Palmers Lane</p> <p>NR133NP Lower Green Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NR Porter's Road Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NS Halvergate Road Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NU Palmers Lane Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NX Sutton Crescent Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133QR Observer Close Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133QY Church View Freethorpe</p>	<p>East: Wickhampton</p> <p>NR133PA Low Road Wickhampton</p> <p>NR133PB Wickhampton Wickhampton</p> <p>NR133PD Church Road Wickhampton</p> <p>NR133PE Church Road Wickhampton</p>
<p>Central: The Green & Chapelfield</p> <p>NR133AH The Green Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NY The Green Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133LY Chapelfield Freethorpe</p>	<p>South-east: School, Village Hall & Reedham Rd</p> <p>NR133LZ Reedham Road Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NZ School Road Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133LZ The Brickyard Freethorpe</p>
<p>West: The Common</p> <p>NR133JN Caters Close Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133LT The Common Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133LX The Common Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NB Granary Close Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NT The Loke Freethorpe</p>	<p>South-west: Youngs Crescent & Old Chapel Road</p> <p>NR133XA Youngs Crescent Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133XB Preston Close Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133XD Cricketers Walk Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133XE Bowlers Close Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133LU Old Chapel Road Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133SX Walpole Way Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133SY Prospect Close Freethorpe</p> <p>NR133NA Pearsons Close Freethorpe</p>

Thank you for your support!

We have the power to change things and make the world a better place. Please join us with vision and action to combat climate change and nature loss in our own homes and our own parish. Here's a reminder of our six key areas for the Parish Council and for individuals to help us all become part of the change that's needed.

Thank you for your support!

1. Promote good practice	We will encourage everyone... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• to leave some space undisturbed for wildlife• sow wildflowers, plant flowers and trees• reduce use of pesticides• limit hedge-cutting.
2. Influence development	We will influence planning for... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• hedgehog highways• protecting trees and hedges• biodiversity net gain• protecting green spaces• better transport links
3. Develop nature corridors	We will work towards... <ul style="list-style-type: none">• more hedgerows• creating wildlife corridors• aiming for all boundaries to be hedged• more tree and hedge planting with landowners• verge cutting schedules for safety and wildlife
4. Create wildlife areas	We will look at our gardens and our public spaces for opportunities.
5. Install bird & bat boxes	We will look at our gardens and our public spaces for opportunities.
6. Consider tree risks	We will consider tree risks, threats and diseases.