

## **2022/23 Report to Kempley Parish Annual Meeting - from DyFRA.**

### **The Wildflower Management of Public Lands - progress report in the last year**

The KPC biodiversity resolution of 27 July 2021 has now been endorsed by eleven parish councils of the Dymock Forest and Leadon Vale.

Gloucestershire County Council has approved more than a dozen sites to become Conservation Road Verges (CRVs), identified for careful management by Ringway contractors. This will be done in liaison with Gill Kilmurray, the Forest of Dean's District Councillor for Dymock Ward, and her Environment and Conservation subcommittee of Dymock Parish Council.

The designated Kempley CRVs run from north to south where the road intersects with the Daffodil Way including St Mary's Church. It does not include the village (Kempley Green) envelope nor Folly Lane which runs east behind the homesteads of Queens' Wood Road.

The Forestry Commission (FE) manages the verges from the Kempley sign (now mowed by DyFRA volunteers both sides to Queens Wood carpark) for the benefit of wild daffodil and bluebell populations. From this point FE flails at the approved schedule to Shaw Common, Oxenhall and Four Oaks with Dymock PC. Long-time volunteers mow the Normansland Lane's return back to Dymock.

### **Proposal to complete the parish verge projects for wildflower management**

DyFRA has supplied three extensive reports to the Parish Council identifying the management regime and the responsibilities accepted by DyFRA's volunteers.

The Dymock District Ward (covering Kempley, Dymock, Four Oaks, Brooms Green, Oxenhall, Gorsley/Kilcot and Preston hamlets) will continue to support coordination of the GCC Highways subcontractor across the Golden Triangle.

Volunteer residents of Kempley Green have suggested we re-start the Wild Daffodil project by collecting seed this June. This will lead to the eventual propagation of three-year-old bulbs for planting within the Kempley Green envelope, to connect the existing managed verges (CRVs), and along any affected Gloucestershire broadband line of cabling. The ambition is to emulate the spring/summer wildflower display of St Edward's Churchyard environs, part of DyFRA's Wild Daffodil Project (2005). Similarly at St Mary's (English Heritage Trust / FoKC) the daffodil meadow which is now one of just 100 sites chosen by the English Heritage Trust to celebrate the coronation of King Charles a lasting environmental legacy.

We congratulate our members for identifying this missing section of the conservation strategy, and we will happily lend our resources and experience in support.

Chris Bligh, Tim Rickard, Debby Davy

Dymock Forest Rural Action : Wild Daffodil Project

