



Westleton Common Annual Report 2023



Ann Bebbington

View towards Middleton following clearance work by Suffolk Coast and Heath volunteers on 7 February 2023

WESTLETON COMMON ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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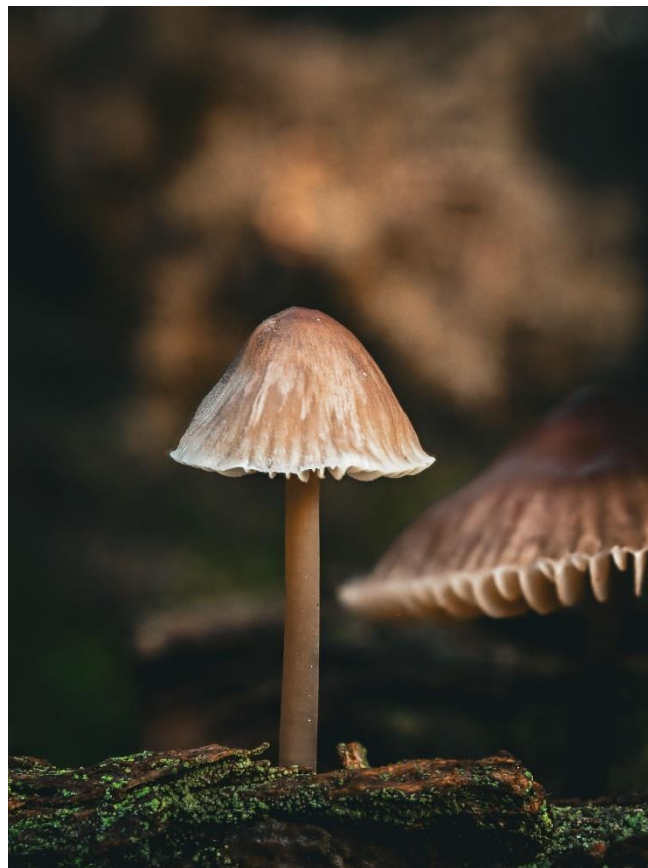
Trees and Shrubs

Wildflowers and other plants

Other sightings

Annual Report 2023 – Review of the Year

It is always a pleasure to receive confirmation that visitors to Westleton appreciate the Common. The following attractive photographs of fungi were taken by Laura Llewellyn, a frequent visitor to Westleton, on the 20th November 2023 and forwarded by her mother, Gill Wood.





Neil Mahler, Suffolk County Recorder for Fungi; Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service, service commented “The 3 photos you sent are really beautiful but all I can say is they are all Bonnet Caps of some sort and have no particular characteristics which really stand out enabling me to identify them.”

2023 was marked by some very challenging weather. Heavy rain and the various named storms meant that some of the Saturday morning working parties had to be cancelled. But one very welcome return after a 2-year Covid induced break was that of the New Years Day Bonfire and Fireworks.

We were expecting some very hot weather during the summer so in January and February contractors were employed to restore and extend the firebreaks on the North Common. This is probably the part of the common at greatest risk because of nearby houses. The expected hot weather arrived.

The volunteer working parties from Suffolk Coast and Heaths came three times during the year. In February they opened views from the common towards Middleton. Views which had not been seen for many years – if ever! In September they cleared a lot of gorse off a cliff in compartment 13. The primary reason for this work is to encourage sand martins to nest in the sandy cliff. A useful secondary objective is to expose some of the underlying geology as suggested by Geo-Suffolk in their report on the common in 2021. Bob Markham of GeoSuffolk commented that *“Anything to make exposures of the underlying geology is welcome. Re sand martins, I would be interested to hear if they appreciate your efforts - they seem to particularly like having hard bands to burrow beneath.”*

The Suffolk Coast and Heaths volunteers visited again in October. We hoped they could continue clearing the “sand martin” cliff but this was unsafe as recent heavy rain made the cliff surface too unstable for people to work on. However, an earlier Saturday working party had to be cancelled because of heavy rain so they were able to clear an area of gorse that had been planned for that Saturday morning.

We are very grateful to Neil Lister and his fellow volunteers from Suffolk Coast and Heaths for the invaluable help they are able to give.

During 2022 much of the noddle was cleared of gorse to allow regeneration of more varied vegetation. There was also obvious, but inevitable, damage to the slope leading to the noddle used by the heavy plant required for this work.

These photos were taken on 25 October 2023 and show how the vegetation is regenerating and the access track is recovering. The access track also illustrates the underlying geology.



Access path used by "plant"

In her report of the nature walks in the **Nature Walks and Other Observations** section of this report Juliet Bullimore has included two photographs of the noddle which also show clear evidence of recovery. (See notes for 22nd April and 20th May.)

Graham Hart, the Conservation Advisor from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, emailed in February 2023 "*I have received an email from Chris Ryde at Norse's Countryside Service at East Suffolk Council. Chris is looking for some advice on habitat conservation work to conserve Silver Studded Blues on the Council owned part of Upper Hollesley Common. (He has counted 64 in one count last Summer) He has some knowledge of how this might be achieved but would like to talk to people that have hands on experience on managing for them, I think your group would be perfect. Would you be happy for me to pass on your email addresses to him? I am sure seeing examples of what you are doing for them at Westleton Common would be inspiring for him. I would be happy to join you if I am free on the date you choose*".

David Rous followed this up and met with Graham and Chris on 28th February and was able to give very useful advice.

The Higher Level Stewardship Agreement between Westleton Parish Council and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has been renewed for the period 01/01/2023 to 30/09/2028. This provides a grant of £1770 per full year (£1323.87 in 2028). This lays down standards for the maintenance of the common, standards which are met by the Management Plan for the period 2023 to 2033.

Towards the end of the year Westleton Parish Council received a very generous donation of £10,000 from the Potter/Barnes family (Jim Potter, Joanne Barnes, David Barnes, Lara Hawkins) in memory of Hilary Potter, wife and mother. Mrs Potter was a frequent visitor who had many happy walks on the Common. Mr Potter had requested that the money should be used solely by the Parish Council to further ensure the implementation of the Common 10-year 2023/33 Management Plan which encompasses various different aspects of programmed work and so this money will allow us to proceed on projects with clear certainty over future funding.

The Common Advisory Committee met on 9 January 2024 and suggested that this donation would allow us to employ contractors to;

A - reprofile the sand martin cliff in compartment 13 (this would also, coincidentally, allow us to expose the underlying geology as advised by GeoSuffolk in their survey of 2021.

B - clear and reestablish the pond in compartment 1.

C – clear gorse in compartment 13 on the bank between the sand martin cliffs and Black Slough in autumn 2024.

The two posts on the footpath leading to the common from the car parking area in compartment 5 were modified so they can be dropped to ground level by opening a pair of combination locks. This will provide additional access for emergency vehicles should that be necessary. Given the likelihood of further very hot summers with increased risk of fire this could prove to be very helpful.

We are very grateful to everyone who helped with the management of the Common during the year.

We thank all the people who helped with the working parties and are grateful to Pam Hargreaves, Liz Pierce, Juliet Bullimore and Grania Webber for providing the much-needed refreshments.

Several people contributed to and are credited in this report. We appreciate their help.

We are grateful to the people who took the photographs that enliven this report and their permission to use them; David Rous, Neil Mahler, Juliet Bullimore, Ann Bebbington, John Bebbington, Laura Llewellyn, Joyce Burtenshaw, and Frances Berry.

Juliet Bullimore helped with much of the organisation and publicity and made some useful contributions to this report including writing the "Nature Walks and other Observations" section.

We thank them all.

*Westleton Common Advisory Group
January 2024*

Westleton Common Advisory Group 2023

(Appointed by Westleton Parish Council on 26 June 2023)

Nick Shearme, Westleton Parish Council - Chair nick@gardenend.co.uk

John Bebbington, Co-opted - Secretary johnannbebbington@outlook.com

David Rous, Co-opted - Work Party Leader David126754@outlook.com

Julian Alexander, Westleton Parish Council

Ian Webber, Westleton Parish Council

John French, Westleton Parish Council

Joyce Burtenshaw, Co-opted

Barry Banks, Westleton Parish Council

Amanda Freeman, Co-opted

Chris Freeman, Co-opted

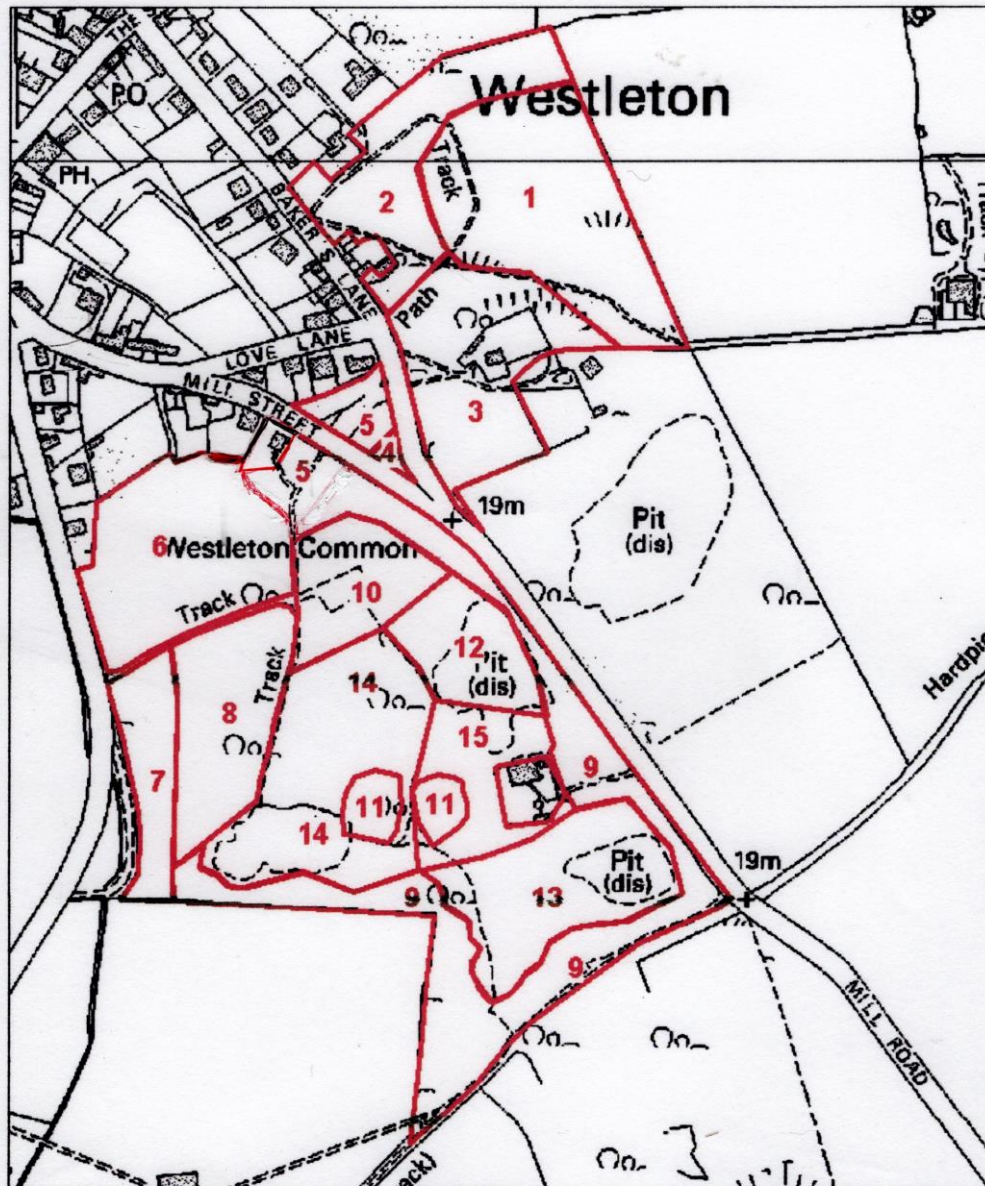
Westleton Common; Compartment Plan

Westleton Common

Compartment Map

Scale 1:4000

Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Brooke House
Ashbocking
Ipswich IP6 9JY



This map is reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map by Suffolk Wildlife Trust - Crown Copyright. All rights reserved.
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Westleton Common Programme 2023

BONFIRE and FIREWORKS

New Year's Day at about 6pm

WORKING PARTIES 2023

10am to 12.30pm

Meet at the Container opposite the Common Noticeboard,
down a short track on the right at the top of Mill St

Saturday January 7th

Saturday January 21st

Saturday February 4th

Saturday February 18th

Saturday March 18th

Saturday September 16th

Saturday October 7th

Saturday October 21st

Saturday November 18th

~

NATURE WALKS 2023

As usual a series of informal walks/strolls covering each season on the Common was planned.

10.30am to 12 noon (approx)

Meet at the Common Noticeboard down a short track on the right at the top of Mill St.

Saturday February 25th

Saturday April 15th

Saturday May 20th

Saturday July 1st

Saturday September 2nd

Saturday November 4th

~

New Years Day Bonfire and Fireworks

Following 2 years when the Covid-19 pandemic made it impossible to hold the, now, traditional bonfire and firework display on January 1st 2023 Westleton was once again able to welcome the New Year with this popular event.

In the minutes of its meeting held on 30 January 2023 Westleton Parish Council noted; *23/15 New Year Fireworks The event had proved very successful with a great turnout of people and congratulations were recorded to Cllr Shearme and supporting team involved in the organisation.*

NEW YEARS DAY BONFIRE/FIREWORKS *(From Westleton Parish Council minutes)*

Total proceeds were broken down as follows:-

Donations £700.24

50/50 £165

Catering £162.70

Grand total £1027.94

In addition, two separate donations of £20 were received from local residents. The total proceeds were £1067.94. As in previous years this event just about “broke even”. This event is far more about community cohesion and is not intended as a money-making exercise, so any overspend is seen as worthwhile.

Nick Shearme included this note in the March 2023 edition of the Yoxmere Fisherman;

NEW YEAR 'S DAY FIREWORKS 2023

A big THANK YOU from the Fireworks Group for a great attendance and support. Hope you all enjoyed the fireworks and bonfire. Thanks to the Parish Council for their support, also to everyone who helped with the food and drink. Thanks to Nat Bacon and Warrior Fire and Rescue. See you all Jan 1st 2024.

Nick Shearme

Chair of Bonfire Advisory Working Group

Working Party Notes

David Rous led all the working parties.

Saturday 07/01/2023

A team of 9, including David Rous, team leader, and Nick Shearme, Advisory Group chairman, worked in the clearing behind the layby on Reckford Road in compartment 7. They raked up and removed most of the surface vegetation. Nick also cut back and removed some branches from trees.

Pam Hargreaves and Liz Pierce organised the refreshments.



Before



Before



Getting started



Getting started



Getting started



Getting started



Work completed



Work completed



Work completed

Saturday 21/01/2023

7 workers including David Rous and Nick Shearme cleared gorse in compartment 13.

Juliet Bullimore organised the refreshments.



Before



Before



Before



After



After



After



Cut material from 21/01/2023

Saturday 4/02/2023

(From notes made by Juliet Bullimore)

Good turn out today - 12 workers + Grania Webber doing the refreshments (sausage rolls, brownies and ginger cake!).

We were split into 2 groups - 3 of us girls cleared the gorse in front of the viewing seat on the Noddle in compartment 6.



Photo by Juliet Bullimore – making a start



Photo by Juliet Bullimore – finished

The rest of the group, including Nick Shearme with his chain saw, cleared the area to the right of the path at the southern part (compartment 14).



Photos taken by Joyce Burtenshaw during the morning.



Photos taken by Joyce Burtenshaw during the morning.



Two photos taken by Frances Berry in the afternoon of 4th February showing the cleared area and the heap of cut material.

Saturday 18/02/2023

A team of 8 workers, including David Rous team leader, cleared gorse and scrub in compartment 2 behind "Four Winds". in preparation for imminent arrival of heavy-duty plant to clear fire breaks. Grania Webber supported by Pam Hargreaves organised the refreshments.



Before clearance



Before clearance



Before clearance



After clearance



After clearance



After clearance

Saturday 18/03/2023

A wet morning. 11 workers including David Rous, team leader, and Nick Shearme. Before work started Nick congratulated the people who had helped out over the season. Thanks to the efforts of the people who joined the Saturday working parties the common maintenance was now back on schedule. Next season we will be able to return to one session per month.

Work done – rake and clean up the areas where cut material had been stored and recently removed.



Pre-work discussion.



At work (photos by Juliet Bullimore)



After work – cleared area



Critical activity

(photos by Juliet Bullimore)

Additional note by Juliet Bullimore

We finished at coffee time, as we had done all the raking up that needed doing. Grania Webber confirmed that she would now take the lead with the refreshments, with Juliet Bullimore and Pam Hargreaves taking turns.

Saturday 16/09/2023

12 Workers including David Rous as team leader cleared gorse in compartment 14. Nick Shearme started cutting down the marked birch trees in the wetland area in compartment 11 as part of restoration project. *(See later for notes on this work.)* Juliet Bullimore dealt with the refreshments.



Getting started A



Getting started B



Getting started C



Work completed A



Work completed B



Work completed C



Cut material



Cut Material

Saturday 21 October 2023

This working party was cancelled. Heavy rain was forecast for the Saturday morning – Suffolk was on the outer reaches of storm Babet.

Saturday 18 November 2023

Once again, we were thwarted by the weather. This working party was cancelled because of wind and rain. An additional working party for January 2024 was proposed.

Fire Breaks

The hot dry summers over the last couple of years suggest that the risk of fire is increasing. Contractors were employed to restore the fire breaks and cut new ones on the North Common (compartments 1, 2 and 3) during January and February. The following photographs show the work that was done.



New firebreaks on North Common (cont)



Wetland Area

In the Management Plan for the 10 years 2023 to 2033 we committed ourselves to “Restore woodland glade and wet area in that part of compartment 11 to the left (on compartment plan) of the path.”

This year we began the process of felling trees in this area. The photos that follow show a section of this small woodland that has been left alone and a small area that has been cleared. The area cleared is small and the wetland and is beginning to recover.

These photos were taken after a couple of dry days following a period of heavy rain.



Neighbouring uncleared area



Cleared area



Cleared area with surface water



Cut material from cleared area



Trees marked for later felling



View of cleared area

The felling was completed early in 2024. The cut material will be moved to the periphery to serve as “habitat”.

Suffolk Coast and Heaths Volunteers

We had three visits by teams of volunteers organised by Neil Lister of Suffolk Coast and Heaths. We are very grateful for their invaluable help.

Suffolk Coast and Heaths Volunteer Working Party Tuesday 7 February 2023

A team of 9 workers including Neil Lister, Suffolk Coast and Heaths Team Leader, and our Joyce Burtenshaw were present. Joyce Burtenshaw also made cake, Andrew Burtenshaw and John Bebbington and looked after the refreshments on the day.

David Rous and Nick Shearme briefed the team and got them started. They continued to clear the bank in compartment 9 to the right of the path leading to Black Slough that they worked on last time they were here on Tuesday November 22 2022.



Briefing



Getting started



Next day (Ann Bebbington)



Next day (Ann Bebbington)



Next day (Ann Bebbington)



Next day (John Bebbington)

People commented later that this work had opened up a view towards Middleton that had not been seen for many years – if ever.

Suffolk Coast and Heaths Volunteer Working Party Tuesday 19 September 2023

As on previous occasions the team of volunteers was led by Neil Lister and David Rous conducted the pre-work briefing.

Joyce Burtenshaw organised the catering.

The team cleared much of the gorse on the cliffs in compartment 13 to encourage sand martins.



Showing area of cliff to be cleared (David Rous)



After clearance



After clearance



After clearance



After clearance (showing cut material)

Suffolk Coast and Heaths Volunteer Working Party Tuesday 24 October 2023

Again, the team of volunteers was led by Neil Lister and David Rous conducted the pre-work briefing. John Bebbington organised the catering.

The original plan for this day had been ask them to clear more of the gorse and other vegetation from the sand martin cliff in compartment 13. Unfortunately, the heavy rain over the previous few days resulting from storm Babet together with continuing light rain on the day made this work unsafe.

So, the team picked up the work that the Saturday working party had been unable to do on the previous Saturday (21st October) because heavy rain from storm Babet had been forecast. The team cleared a lot of gorse and other vegetation in compartment 8.



Before clearance



Before clearance



Before clearance



Getting started and briefing



After clearance



After clearance



After clearance



Cut material

Nature Walks and Other Observations (reported by Juliet Bullimore)

Nature Walks and Observations 2023

(All photographs by Juliet Bullimore)

The year 2023 brought a variety of weather conditions for our 6 Nature Walks between February and November.

February observations:

February 4th

Xylaria cinerea - the rare fungus identified by Neil Mahler in 2022 has reappeared in the same place:



February 20th

Snowdrops - *Galanthus nivalis* - north of 'Four Winds'.



Nature Walk Saturday February 25th

10 attendees

Weather chilly, one brief rain shower, otherwise mainly sunny.

At the meeting place near the notice board we heard Great Tits and saw Longtailed Tits in the Hawthorn Tree near the container.

We began the walk by having a look at the snowdrops on North Common, behind Four Winds. Then we took the usual circuit - down the track towards the Reckford Rd, and along the recently cleared pathway along the SW side of the Common, up the narrow winding track, and across past the geology information board, noting that there was some gorse in flower. We examined mosses - Polytrichum with male flowers, Juicy Lucy moss, and also the lichen Cladonia, known as Reindeer Moss.

A Kite flew overhead and circled briefly.

We continued up the sandy slope, over the top, down the other side, down the Black Slough track, up the steps, down on to the Common and back along the middle path.



Not many observations, but plenty of chatting, and an enjoyable excursion.

See list of Mosses in Appendix, observed in February by Richard Fisk.

March observations:

March 30th



Polytrichum juniper - female flowers

Nature Walk Saturday April 15th

Fine, still, warm day

11 attendees

The highlight of the walk was listening to at least 3 nightingales singing heartily - first ones heard this year.

David has already seen 11 adders on the Common but we didn't search them out this time.

Joyce Burtenshaw wrote a long list of what we heard and saw on the walk (see list in Appendix).

David explained which trees are to be cut down in the central wooded area - mostly silver birches to create a glade in the middle.

The gorse was flowering well, together with the Blackthorn and Willows.



Gathering for the start of the walk



Nightingale territory



In the wooded area where a glade is to be created



Goat willow



Comma butterfly

Great Diving Beetle



April 22nd



View from the Noddle

May 18th
Heard first Cuckoo

Nature Walk May 20th

17 attendees, with Joyce Burtenshaw recording sightings (See Appendix)

Weather: Sunny with cool NE breeze

After a wet early spring the Common had dried up underfoot.

On the zigzag track up to The Noddle, Wall Pennywort put on a good show:



and Sheep's Sorrel formed a red carpet on The Noddle.



There was a fair amount of Common Storks Bill and Climbing Corydalis in flower,



Climbing Corydalis

and several Small Copper butterflies seen singly in different places:



Small Copper butterfly

May 27th

Tell-tale pits made by Antlions in a sheltered sandy spot.



June 9th



Foxgloves on The Noddle



Bee Orchid

June 10th



Slender thistle



Corn Cockle

Nature Walk July 1st

Weather fine, 17 attendees, with Joyce Burtenshaw recording sightings (See Appendix)
Butterflies seen: Silver Studded Blues, a Comma, a Skipper.



Skipper



Comma

and a Silver Studded Blue on Bell Heather:



July 23rd



Heather on the North Common in flower during and after a rainy July:
:

July 29th



August 15th



Nature Walk September 2nd

12 attendees, with Joyce Burtenshaw recording sightings (See Appendix).

After the summer rains there was an impressive blooming of wildflowers in September.





Speckled Wood butterfly on Brambles



Sand Spurrey



Red Bartisia



Blackberries



Sweet Chestnut tree with Western Gorse and Heather



Deceiver mushrooms

Observations later in September and in October

September 18th



Small Copper butterfly and Bell Heather

October 23rd



*Nostoc (a photosynthetic bacterium)
on the concrete square.*



Fly Agaric mushroom



A splendid Holly tree



Red Gorse Mites within their web



Bumble bees on a Nodding Thistle



The rare Xylaria cinerea fungus

Nature Walk November 4th

About half a dozen people braved the rainy weather for this walk:



The central woodland area was inundated during this period, and the red paint on the Silver Birch tree indicates that it is to be felled in early 2024.



Pink Russula mushroom



Parasol mushroom



Turkeytail fungus on Gorse stump



Ear fungus on elder

A list of all the fungi recorded on the November Nature Walk can be found in the Appendix.

Fungi.

Report by Neil Mahler.

Suffolk County Recorder for Fungi; Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service

See appendix for detailed lists of fungi seen.

I couldn't make as many trips in 2023 as I would have liked to and when conditions were at their peak I had other sites to survey.

This time I concentrated on the section of woodland behind the railway carriage and the most notable fungi to be found were the large number of common Earthballs (*Scleroderma citrinum*) amongst the Oak and Birch trees :



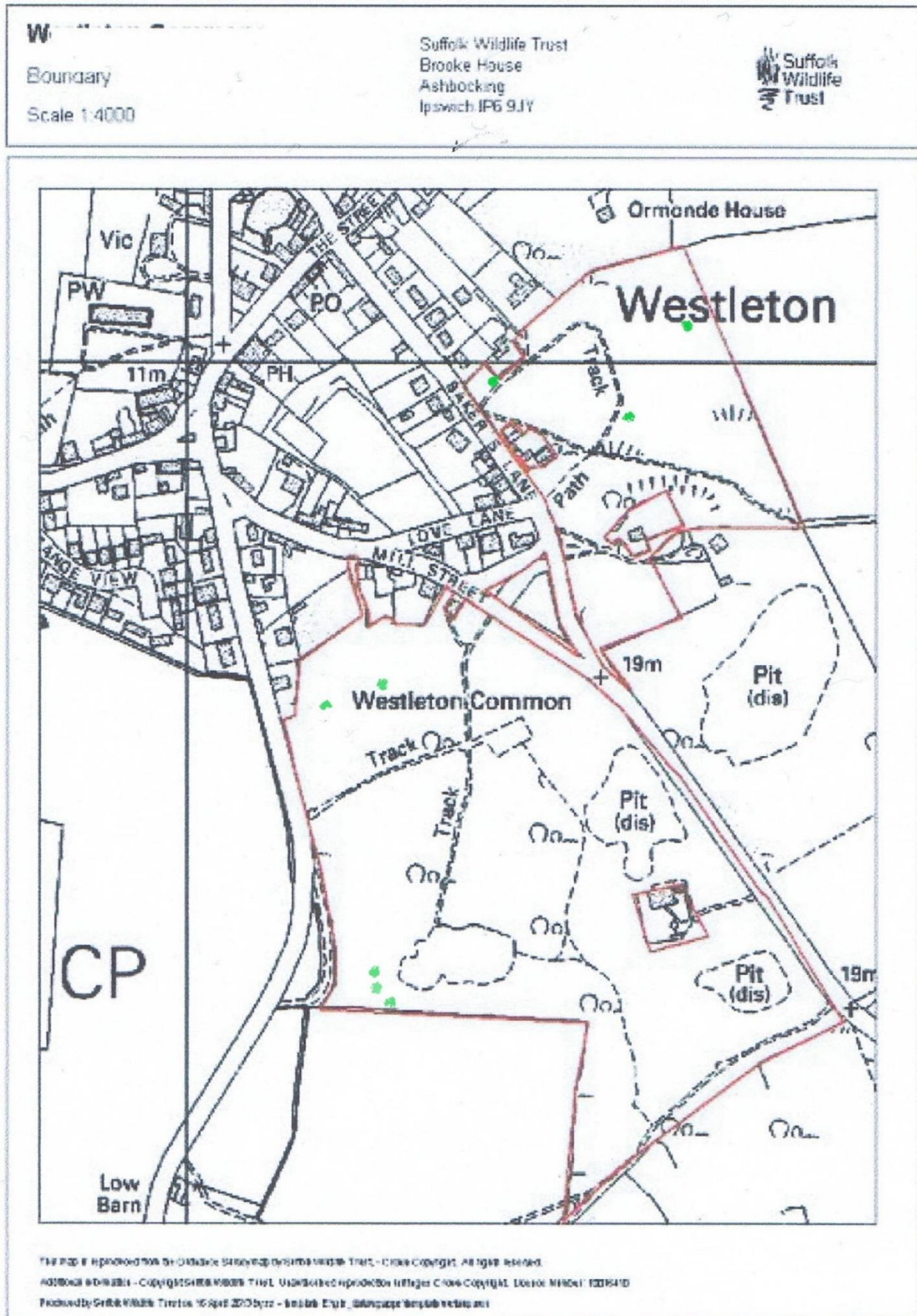
Also present was a small Coral Fungus (*Ramaria*) I was unable to identify to species level:



Three very attractive photographs of fungi were taken by a visitor to Westleton, Laura Llewellyn, in November 2023. These can be seen in the "Review of the Year", above.

Reptiles

Map of Westleton Common showing locations where adders were seen during 2023 (David Rous).



Safety Audit

Westleton Common Advisory Group

Safety Audit Report

Date of Audit – Sunday 7th May 2023

Auditors – David Rous and Nick Shearme

Scope of Audit;

All main paths on both sides of Baker's Lane and Mill Street/Mill Road were walked. Other paths, including Black Slough and the footpath leading from the North Common towards Nash Barn and King's Farm as far as the cultivated fields have also been checked over this weekend by other members of the group and no problems were seen.

The area leading to and surrounding the pond on the North Common and the track leading to Reckford Road and the Reckford Road layby were examined.

Seats, handrails and steps were checked.

David Rous routinely walks on the Common on most days and has not noticed any problems.

Findings;

During the summer months we expect there will be significant fire-risk and we recommend that the fire warning signs are installed at the start of the summer and left in place during the whole summer period.

The seat on the "Noddle" in compartment 6 needs minor repairs – it does not present any hazards at the moment but requires attention.

The signs warning of the presence of beehives on the North Common in compartment 1 should be renewed.

Handrails and steps are sound.

No other problems were found.

Recommendations;

Ensure fire risk warning signs remain in place during the summer.

Replace beehive warning signs.

Repair seat on the Noddle.

David Rous, Nick Shearme
07/05/2023

APPENDIX: 2023 Records

Fungi 2023

(Reported by Neil Mahler, Suffolk County Recorder for Fungi, Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service)

North Common October 22nd 2023.

Amanita fulva - Tawny Grisette
Amanita muscaria - Fly Agaric
Ascocoryne sarcoides - Purple Jellydisc
Bjerkandera adusta - Smokey Bracket
Byssomerulius corium - Netted Crust
Calocera cornea - Small Stags horn
Chondrostereum purpureum - Silverleaf Fungus
Clitocybe phyllophila - Frosty Funnel
Coniophora puteana - Wet Rot
Crepidotus cesatii - an Oysterling
Crepidotus variabilis - Variable Oysterling
Dacrymyces stilatus - Jelly Spot
Eryshiphe alphitoides - Oak Mildew
Exidia glandulosa - Witches Butter
Exidia nucleata - Chrystal Brain
Gymnopus dryophilus - Russet Toughshank
Gymnopus peronatus - Wood Woollyfoot
Hygrophoropsis aurantica - False Chanterelle
Laccaria amethystina - Amethyst Deceiver
Laccaria lacatta - Deceiver
Laccaria proxima - Scurfy Deceiver
Lactarius quietus - Oakbug Milkcap
Lactarius tabidus - Birch Milkcap
Mycena archangeliana - Angel Bonnet
Mycena epipterygia - Yellowleg Bonnet
Mycena galericulata - Common Bonnet
Mycena galopus - Milking Bonnet
Paxillus involutus - Brown Rollrim
Peniophora quercina - Oak Crust
Rhodocollybia butyracea - Buttercap
Russula betularum - Birch Brittlegill
Russula ochroleuca - Ochre Brittlegill
Scleroderma citrinum - Common Earthball
Stereum hirsutum - Hairy Curtain Crust
Stereum subtomentosum - Yellowing Bracket
Trámeles versicolor - Turkeytail
Tremella mesenterica - Yellow Brain
Tubaria furfuracea - Scurfy Twiglet
Xylaria hypoxylon – Candelsnuff

South Common October 15th 2023.

Amanita geminata - Jewelled Amanita
Amanita muscaria - Fly Agaric
Amanita rubescens - Blusher
Boletus cisalpinus -
Calocera cornea - Small Stagshorn
Clitocybe phyllophila - Frosty Funnel
Daedaliopsis concentrica - Blushing Bracket
Erisyphe alphitoides - Oak Mildew
Gymnopilus dryophilus - Russet Toughshank
Gyroporus castaneus - Chestnut Bolete
Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca - FalseChanterelle
Hypholoma fasciculare - Sulphur Tuft
Laccaria amethystina - Amethyst Deceiver
Laccaria lacatta - Deceiver
Laccaria proxima - Scurfy Deceiver
Lactarius quietus - Oak Bug Milkcap
Leucocoprinus brebisonii - Skullcap Daperling
Lycoperdon perlatum - Common Puffball
Mycena arcangeliana - Angel Bonnet
Mycena galopus - Milking Bonnet
Paxillus involutus - Brown Rollrim
Pluteus cervinus - Deer Shield
Psathyrella piluliformis - Stump Brittlestem
Rickenella fibula - Orange Mosscap
Rickenella swartzii - Collared Mosscap
Russula ochroleuca - Ochre Brittlegill
Russula amaeolens -
Scleroderma aereolatum - Leopard Eathball
Scleroderma citrinum - Common Earthball
Stereum hirsutum - Hairy Curtain Crust
Tremella mesenterica - Yellow Brain
Xerocomellus badius - Bay Bolete

South Common December 14th 2023.

Amanita gemmata - Jewlled Amanita
Ascocoryne sarcoides - Purple Jellydisc
Bjerkandera adusta - Smokey Bracket
Byssomerulius corium - Netted Crust
Chondostereum purpureum - Silver leaf Fungus
Coniophora puteana - Wet Rot
Exidia glandulosa - Witches Butter
Exidia nucleata - Chrystal Brain
Flammulina velutipes - Velvet Shank
Hapalopilus nidulans - Cinnamon Bracket
Laccaria laccata - Deceiver
Lepista flaccida - Tawney Grizette
Lepista saeva - Field Blewit
Mycena galericulata - Common Bonnet
Peniophora quercina -
Phlebia radiata - Wrinkled Crust

Pluteus ostreatus - Oyster fungus
 Scleroderma citrinum - Common Earthball
 Stereum subtomentosum - Yellowing Bracket
 Trámeles versicolor - Turkeytail
 Tremella mesenterica - Yellow Brain
 Xylaria hypoxylon - Candlesnuff

Additional Fungus Sightings 2023 (*Reported by Joyce Burtenshaw*)

	4 th November 2023
Amethyst Deceiver	x
Birch Polypore	x
Brain Fungus	x
Buttercap	x
Deceiver	x
Ear Fungus	x
Earth-Ball	x
False Chanterelle	x
Fly Agaric	x
Parasol mushroom	x
Sulpher Tuft	x
Turkey Tail	x
Xylaria cinerea *	x
Crepidotus spp	x
Mycena spp	x
Russela spp	x

* *Xylaria cinerea*. There was some concern that this was a rare sighting and may need special protection. Neil Mahler commented that:
"It should be reasonably safe where it is and this fungus is turning up all over England and Wales now as more and more fungi enthusiasts become aware of it - so I guess it will just have to take its chances."

Mosses 2023 (Reported by Richard Fisk)

Taxon	Vernacular	Previous name
Atrichum undulatum	Common Smoothcap	
Aulacomnium androgynum	Bud-headed Groove-moss	
Barbula unguiculata	Bird's-claw Beardmoss	
Brachythecium albicans	Whitish Feathermoss	
Brachythecium rutabulum	Rough-stalked Feathermoss	
Bryoerythrophyllum recurvirostrum	Red Beardmoss	
Bryum capillare	Capillary Threadmoss	
Bryum rubens	Crimson-tuber Threadmoss	
Calliergonella cuspidata	Pointed Spearmoss	
Campylopus introflexus	Heath Star Moss	
Campylopus pyriformis	Dwarf Swan-neck Moss	
Cephaloziella divaricata	Common Threadwort	
Ceratodon purpureus	Redshank	
Cryphaea heteromalla	Lateral Cryphaea	
Dicranella heteromalla	Silky Forklet-moss	
Dicranoweisia cirrata	Common Pincushion	
Dicranum scoparium	Broom Forkmoss	
Didymodon fallax	False Beardmoss	
Didymodon insulanus	Cylindric Beardmoss	
Frullania dilatata	Dilated Scalewort	
Funaria hygrometrica	Bonfire Moss	
Grimmia pulvinata	Grey-cushioned Grimmia	
Hypnum cupressiforme	Cypress-leaved Plait-moss	
Hypnum cupressiforme var. lacunosum	Great Plaitmoss	
Hypnum jutlandicum	Heath Plaitmoss	
Kindbergia praelonga	Common Feathermoss	
Lewinskya affinis	Wood Bristlemoss	Orthotrichum affine
Lophocolea semiteres	Southern Crestwort	
Metzgeria furcata	Forked Veilwort	
Mnium hornum	Swan's-neck Thyme-moss	
Orthodontium lineare	Cape Threadmoss	
Orthotrichum stramineum	Straw Bristlemoss	
Plagiomnium affine	Many-fruited Thyme-moss	
Polytrichum formosum	Bank Haircap	
Polytrichum juniperinum	Juniper Haircap	
Polytrichum piliferum	Bristly Haircap	
Pseudocrossidium hornschuchianum	Hornschuch's Beardmoss	
Pseudoscleropodium purum	Neat Feathermoss	
Pulviger a lyellii	Lyell's Bristlemoss	Orthotrichum lyallii
Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus	Springy Turf-moss	
Streblotrichum convolutum var. commutatum	Sardinian Bird's-claw Beardmoss	Barbula convoluta

Syntrichia ruralis var. ruraliformis	Sand-hill Screw-moss	
Syntrichia ruralis var. ruralis	Great Hairy Screwmoss	
Tortula muralis	Wall Screwmoss	
Ulota bruchii	Bruch's Pincushion	

Additional Mosses 2023 (*Reported by Joyce Burtenshaw*)

Mosses		April
Hair moss	Polytrichum Juniperium	x
Roof Plait Moss	Hypnum lacunosum	x

Reptiles 2023 (*Reported by David Rous, extracted from his species list*)

March 21 - 3 Adders

March 22 - 4 Adders (1 black adder)

March 24 - 3 (new) Adders

March 30 - 1 new Adder

April 3 - 1 Adder, 1 Grass snake,

April 4 - 4 Adders, 1 Grass snake,

April 11 - 5 Adders

April 13 - 4 Adders

April 14 - 10 Adders, Grass snake

April 20 - 4 Adders (1 new male)

April 27 - 2 Adders

April 30 - 1 Grass snake, 2 Adders

Other Invertebrates							
Humming Bird Hawk Moth				x			
Ant lion				x			
Common Flower Beetle				x			
Common Meadow Grass Hopper				x			
Devils Coach Horse Beetle				x			
Gold Flecked Longhorned Beetle				x			
Great Diving Beetle	dead						
Great Green Bush Cricket				x			
Lacewing spp							
Lesser banded hoverfly				x			
Pollen Beetles				x			
7 Spot Ladybird	x						
Syrphus hoverfly spp				x			
Thick Kneed Flower Beetle				x			
Dragonflies							
Broad Bodied Chaser				x			
Common Darter							
Four Spot Chaser				x			
Hairy Dragonfly			x				
Norfolk Hawker				x			

Silver studded Blues (*Reported by David Rous*)

24/06/2023

Males 93 Females 15

A poor year completely lost them on football pitch.

Loss of heather and dry 2022 could be to blame.

Additional Insect reports (*from David Rous, extracted from his species list*)

March 4 - Buff tailed bumblebee

March 30 - Honey bee

April 3 - Beefly, Peacock butterfly, Blackthorn mining bee, Comma, Brimstone, Buff tailed bumblebee

April 4 - Peacock butterfly, Buff tailed bumblebee, Red tailed bumblebee, Beefly, Hoverfly spp., Vestal cuckoo bee

April 11 - Tree bee, Beefly, Buff tailed bumblebee, Honey bee

April 13 - Tawny mining bee, Red tailed Bumblebee, Buff tailed Bumblebee, Peacock butterfly

April 14 - Green tiger Beetle, Comma, Beefly, 2 hoverfly spp, Cliff mining bee

April 22 - Buff tailed bumblebee

April 27 - Cliff mining bee, Buff tailed bumble bee

April 30 - White-tailed bumblebee, Orange-tip, Peacock butterfly

May 6 - Tree bumblebee, White tailed bumblebee

May 10 - Moss Carder bee (75% sure), Blue damselfly, Goodens nomad bee, Orange-tip, Brimstone, Peacock butterfly, Honey Bee

June 3 - Early Bumblebee, Holly Blue, Blue mason bee, Sandpit blood bee

June 13 - Sandpit Blood bee, Heath bumblebee, Norfolk Hawker, Goodens nomad bee, Common carder bee, honey bee, small heath butterfly, meadow brown butterfly, silver-studded blue butterfly

Undated sightings - Melangyna spp., Pyrrhocoris apterus

Birds 2023 (Reported by Joyce Burtenshaw)

Common Name	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
Blackcap	x						
Blackheaded Gull				x			
Blue tit	x	x				x	
Buzzard	pale form	x		x			
Carrion Crow	x	x					
Cetti's warbler		x					
Chiffchaff	x	x		x			
Coal tit						x	
Garden warbler		x					
Great tit	x						
Greenfinch	x						
Herring Gull		x					
Jackdaw	x						
Linnet	x						
Nightingale	x			x			
Nightjar				x			
Robin						x	
Skylarks				x			
Swallow	x						
Swift		x					
Wood Lark	x						
Wood Pigeon	x			x		x	
Wren	x	x					
Yellow Hammer		x					

Additional Bird reports (from David Rous, extracted from his species list)

March 21 - 4 chiffchaff

March 22 - 3 chiffchaff

March 24 - 2 Woodcocks

March 30 - 6 chiffchaff

April 4 - 5 Chiffchaff

April 11 - 3 chiffchaff

April 14 - 5 Chiffchaff

April 20 - 6 Chiffchaff, Cettis warbler, 3 Blackcaps, 3 Nightingales

April 22 - 4 Nightingales, 6 Chiffchaff, 2 Lesser Whitethroat, Cettis warbler, 2 Blackcaps, Hobby, 2 Greenfinch, Blackbird, Robin, Linnet, Goldfinch, Woodpigeon, Dunnock, Long tailed tit, Blue Tit, Great Tit, Crow, jackdaw, Buzzard, Woodlark

April 28 - Osprey

April 30 - 4 Nightingales, Yellowhammer, Cettis warbler, Woodlark

May 6 - Chiffchaff, 2 willow warblers, Cettis warbler, 4 Nightingales, Blackcap, Whitethroat, Blackbird, Robin, Great Tit, Blue Tit, Woodpigeon

May 10 - Chiffchaff, Blackcap, 4 Nightingales, 1 willow warbler, Blackbird, Goldfinch, Linnet, Woodpigeon

June 13 - Red Kite, Woodlark, Greater Spotted Woodpecker

Trees and Shrubs *(Reported by Joyce Burtenshaw)*

Common Name	Botanical Name
Amelanchia	
Bell Heather	Erica cinerea
Birch	Betula pendula
Bramble	Rubus fruticosus agg.
Broom	Cytisus scoparius
Cherry	Prunus sp
Dog rose	Rosa canina agg
Elder	Sambucus nigra
Elm small leaved	Ulmus minor agg.
Field Rose	Rosa arvensis
Flowering currant	Ribes sanguinum
Goat willow	Salix caprea
Gorse European	Ulex europaeus
Gorse western	Ulex gallii
Hawthorne	Crataegus monogyna
Holly	Ilex aquifolium
Honeysuckle	Lonicera periclymenum
Japanese rose	Rosa rugosa
Lilac	Syringia
Ling	Calluna vulgaris
Oak	Quercus
Privet	Ligustrum vulgaris
Blackthorne	Prunus spinosa
Snowberry	Symphoricarpos albus
Sweet briar rose	Rosa rubiginosa
White willow	Salix alba

Wildflowers and other plants 2023 *(Reported by Joyce Burtenshaw)*

Common Name	Botanical Name	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
Alexanders	Smyrmiun olusatrum	x	x		x		
Autumn Hawkbit	Leontodon autumnalis						x
Bee orchid	Ophrys apifera	x	x		x		
Birdsfoot Trefoil	Lotus corniculatus		x				x
Biting stonecrop	Sedum acre	x					
Black Medic	Medicago lupulina				x		
Black mullien	Verbascum nigra		x				x
Black nightshade	Solanum nigrum						x
Bluebell english	Hyacinthoides non-scripta	x					
Bluebell spanish	Hyacinthoides hispanica	x					
Bugloss	Anchusa arvensis	x	x		x		x
Bucks-horn plantain	Plantago coronopus						x
Bulbous Buttercup	Ranunculous bulbous		x				
Bur Chervil	Anthriscus caucalis		x		x		
Canadian Fleabane	Conyza canadensis						x
Caper spurge	Euphorbia lathyris						x
Catsear	Hypochaeris radicata	x	x		x		x
Changing Forget-me-not	Mysotis discolor		x				
Chickweed	Stellaria media	x	x				x
Cleavers	Galium aparine	x	x		x		
Climbing coydalis	Ceratocarpus claviculata	x	x				
Common Mouse- ear	Cerastium fontanum	x	x				x
Common poppy	Papaver rhoeas				x		x
Common ragwort	Senecio jacobaea				x		x
Common vetch	Vicia sativa		x				
Corncockle	Agrostemma githago			x			
Creeping cinquefoil	Potentilla reptans						x
Daisy	Bellis perennis		x				
Daffodil spp	Narcissus	x					
Dame's Violet	Hesperis matronalis		x				
Dandelion	Taraxacum agg.	x	x				
Dovesfoot Cranesbill	Geranium molle		x				
Early forget me not	Mysotis ramosissima	x					
Fat Hen	Chenopodium album						x
Fiidleneck	Amsinckia micrantha		x				
Field bindweed	Convolvulus arvensis						x
Field Forget-me-not	Mysotis arvensis		x	x			
Field Pansy	Viola arvensis		x				
Field scabious	Knautia arvensis						x
Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea		x				
Garlic Mustard	Alliaria petiolata		x				

Germander Speedwell	Veronica chamaedrys		x	x			x
Grape hyacinth	Muscari latifolium	x					
Great mullein	Verbascum thapsus						x
Greater Periwinkle	Vinca major	x	x	x			
Greater Stitchwort	Stellaria holostea		x				
Green Alkenet	Pentaglottis sempivirens	x	x	x			x
Ground Ivy	Glechoma hederacea		x				
Hairy Bittercress	Cardamine hirsuta	x					
Heath Groundsel	Senecio sylvaticus		x	x			x
Hedge Bedstraw	Galium mollugo			x			
Hedge Mustard	Sisymbrium officinale		x				
Hedgerow Cranesbill	Geranium pyrenaicum		x				x
Hemlock	Conium maculatum	x	x	x			
Herb Robert	Geranium robertianum			x			x
Hoary Cinquefoil	Potentilla argentea		x				x
Imperforate St. John's-wort	Hypericum maculatum						x
Italian arum	arum italicum	x					
Ivy leaved speedwell	Veronica hedrafolium	x	x				
Knotgrass	Polygonum aviculare						x
Lady'd bedstraw	Galium verum						x
Lesser Celendine	Fricaria verna	x					
Lesser Trefoil	Trifolium dubium		x				
Lords- and -Ladies	Arum maculatum	x					x
Marsh cudweed	Gnaphalium uliginosum						x
Meadow clary	Salvia pratensis						x
Mouse-ear-hawkweed	Pilosella officinarum						x
Musk Mallow	Malva moschata						x
Nipplewort	Umblicus rupestris	x	x				
Opium poppy	Papaver somniferum			x			
Parsley piert	Aphanes arvensis		x				
Perforate St Johns Wort	Hypericum perforatum			x			x
Pignut	Conopodium majus	x		x			
Pink Sorrel	Oxalis articulata		x				
Prickly Sowthistle	Sonchus asper		x				x
Primrose	Primula vulgaris		x				
Rape	Brassica napus			x			x
Red campion	Silene dioica			x			x
Red Dead Nettle	Lamium purpureum	x					
Red bartsia	Odontites vernus						x
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago lanceolata	x					x
Rose campion	Lychnis coronaria						x
Rosebay Willowherb	Chamerion angustifolium						x
Sand spurry	Spergula rubra						x
Scarlet pimpernel	Anagallis arvensis		x			x	x

Scentless mayweed	Tripleurospermum inodorum						x
Self heal	Prunella vulgaris						x
Sheep sorrel	Rumex acetosella		x				x
Shepherds Purse	Capsella bursa-pastoris	x	x				
Shinning Cranesbill	Geranium lucidum		x				
Slender Thistle	Carduus tenuiflorus		x				
Small Flowered Geranium	Geranium pusillum		x				
Smooth sowthistle	Saponaria officinalis		x				
Soapwort	Sonchus oleraceus						x
Soft rush	Juncus effusus		x				
Spear Thistle	Cirsium vulgare	x					x
Spotted Medick	Medicago arabica		x			x	x
Spring Beauty	Claytonia perfoliata		x				
Star of Bethlehem	Ornithogalum	x	x				
Stiging Nettle	Urticaria dioica		x				x
Storksbill common	Erodium cicutarium	x	x				x
Thale cress	Arabidopsis thaliana	x	x				
Thyme leaved sandwort	Arenaria serpyllifolia	x					
Thyme-leaved speedwell	Veronica serpyllifolia						x
Tulip	Tulipa (garden escapee)		x				
White bryony	Bryonia dioida				x		
White campion	Silene latifolia	x					x
White comfrey	Symphytum orientale	x	x				
White Dead Nettle	Lamium alba		x				x
White stonecrop	Sedum album						x
Wild basil	Clinopodium vulgare						x
Wild marjoram	origanum vulgare		x				
Wood avens	Geum urbanum		x				
Yarrow	Achillea millefolium						x
Grasses							
Barren Brome					x		
Creeping soft grass					x		
Purple moor grass	Molinia caerulea					x	
Rough meadow grass					x		
Wall Barley					x		

Other sightings (*Reported by Joyce Burtenshaw*)

Lichen

Common Name	Botanical Name	April	May
Dog Lichen	Peltigera canina	x	
	Lecanora muralis		x

	October
Blue Green Algae	x

Westleton Common Advisory Group
January 2024