

Rewilding Project

Rewilding of species poor grassland to create connected diverse habitats, increase biodiversity and store more carbon, whilst creating public access for all with digital interpretation.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

This project is broken down into 3 phases which are going to be submitted as 3 separate applications.

The first application of this nature recovery project concentrates on tree and scrub planting and fencing, meadow enhancement and restoration and the installation of a access for all path.

Future phases include a wetland feasibility study and construction and digital interpretation installation.



The area of land where some of phase 1 of the rewilding project will take place.

CLIMATE

The new areas of native tree and shrub planting and the restoration of meadows by increasing species diversity will both sequester additional carbon and help to reduce flood risk by slowing the flow of water and increasing water infiltration rates. Habitat creation and restoration will help to increase connectivity between habitats across the farm and make the local landscape more resilient to climate change.

PEOPLE

The path around the new woodland, existing grassland and potential new wetland will provide more opportunities for people to explore and enjoy the landscape and nature. Allowing more diverse audiences to visit due to the access-for-all specification being used for the path. Providing a relatively short, level and easy circular route which the applicant hopes will appeal to families visiting the farm shop, enabling more people to engage with nature on the farm.

NATURE

The woodland creations and the meadow restoration and enhancement will increase the area of wildlife rich habitats on the farm, increase connectivity between habitats and lead to an increase in biodiversity. This connectivity will be further increased once the plans for the constructed wetland are in place and can be delivered on the ground.

PLACE

By improving and linking habitats this project will help to enhance the quality of the local landscape. This rewilding project will also help to increase the resilience of the farm business, increasing footfall to the farm shop and also to the off-grid restaurant which is currently under construction on site. By providing an accessible space for people to visit and learn more about local nature, it is also hoped that customers will also gain an understanding of the need for sustainable agriculture.

AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED

- 1.2 - Habitats and Species
- 2.1 - Farming and Land Management
- 2.2 - Sustainable Tourism
- 2.3 - Local Economy and Rural Services
- 3.1 - Countryside Access
- 3.2 - Visitor Management and Information
- 3.3 - Discovering and Learning
- 3.4 - Health and Well-being

HOW THIS PROJECT IS ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE...

- Sequestering carbon through shrub and tree planting to create a carbon sink which absorbs and stores atmospheric carbon.
- Reducing flood risk through shrub and tree planting to slow surface run off and increase infiltration.
- Educating farmers, land managers and the general public on what can be done to help our landscapes become more resilient to climate change.

LOCAL ASSESSMENT PANEL REVIEW

- This project incorporates all 4 outcomes of the Farming in Protected Landscapes scheme together with including many of the AONB's Management Plan objectives, resulting in this project receiving approval from the panel.
- The contribution rate for all items encompassed in the first phase of this nature recovery project is 100%.
- Grant award total = £16,759.90