

Ettington Parish Council

Report to Council

Author : Cllr Hawksworth

Date 14 April 2021

Item 14 Appendix 6a	No Mow at Playing Field/Greening Ettington
---------------------	--

Following the resolution in respect of Greener Ettington and 'no mow' at playing field at the meeting of 10 March I met with Beth Nicholson and had a productive conversation. I have attached a diagram (diagram 1) of the playing field and shown in red where we think we can "no mow".

Some of the areas (shown at diagram 2) are leased to the Community Centre and it will be necessary to gain their agreement to the proposal.

Effectively leave all the area along the right hand side of the community centre where it is butted by the hedge all the way up to just before the football field where the hedge turns right.

By the tennis court where the three big trees are it would be possible to start a swathe from the corner of the tennis court and then go down to the trees, making the swathe thick enough to be under all the branches and then extend it down to about a metre from the back fences of all the properties on the Banbury Road edge down to where we sold the piece of land.

It would also be nice to see if we can reintroduce the wet area behind the vegetation along side the area we sold. Years ago it used to have newts and toads in there.

I may be being conservative but I think we would be best starting with just the playing field areas and allowing people to see how it progresses. It is not instantly going to be as per the pictures that have been put out on the facebook page and, may possibly not be like that at all. Not everyone in the village is going to want the area outside their properties a wild flower meadow.

This will to a certain extent need managing as the edges will need to be kept tidy and the tall grasses that invariably end up growing amongst it will need pulling out regularly so to my mind it isn't a leave and not do anything with. Therefore it will need Greener Ettington to take some responsibility with the PC to upkeep.

Action Required: To consider, discuss and make proposals in respect of:

- a) Agreement to no mow of the areas indicated in diagram 1;
- b) Agreement that Cllr Hughes and Hawksworth request agreement of Community Centre Management Team to no mow of areas leased to them and included in diagram 1
- c) To consider how to reintroduce wet areas

Diagram 1



Diagram 2

