

Stonehouse

Basic Goal

ERDF Wild Towns will enhance ponds and meadows for species such as great crested newts along with creating new green spaces within the town.

Vision Statement

ERDF Wild Towns is targeting four areas within Stonehouse. These are the Court View greenspace, Boakes Drive community greenspace and two areas on Wharfdale Way. Court View greenspace hosts an important population of Great Crested newts. The area will be enhanced through the creation a new ephemeral pond neighbouring the main pond within the area. This will provide a greater area in which the newts can breed. On the main pond there is a dilapidated dipping platform, as part of the project, this, through community action groups will be restored, allowing local communities to enjoy and learn about the pond and the species which live in it. These ponds are situated within a mosaic of rough grassland and scrub. The meadows will be managed and through supplementary wild flower seeding the biodiversity within it will improve helping pollinators in this terrestrial habitat.

Boakes Drive community greenspace and Wharfdale Way are situated on either side of the canal that runs through Stonehouse. Boakes Drive is an existing greenspace and will have wildflower seed sown and subsequent management to encourage growth, the wildflower mix will encourage pollinators and provide a stepping stone for them within the landscape. Across the canal on Wharfdale Way, two areas will receive management. The Community playground will have wildflowers sown and pollinator friendly shrubs planted around the edges while a neighbouring area to the east which currently consists of concrete pad will be replaced with a wildflower bank. The situation of these two areas and Boakes Drive will encourage interaction between the sites and across Stonehouse and along the Canal which forms a Linear greenspace.