

by movement of the cutter or other equipment during the work then a second beacon must be fitted.

4.0 **Grass Cutting Standard and Frequency**

4.1 The areas of grass indicated on the Contract Plans shall be cut by cylinder or rotary cutters, strimmer (or similar appliance) where applicable.

4.2 Fourteen cuts will be required by the Council during each year of the contract period and the sward is to be an average of 50mm (excluding flower heads) in height on completion of each cut and where trimming is carried out.

4.3 On highway verges, unless otherwise indicated in the schedule ¹sufficient passes shall be made to cut the whole verge from the back edge of pavement or kerb to the full extent of the verge, in all other cases the width of the area to be cut shall be as specified.

4.4 Grass cutting shall be carried out at the frequencies indicated below between March and November.

Type of Area	Max cuts per year	Height of cut	Working days between cuts	
			Min	Max
A170 verge	14	50mm	8	21
Residential	14	50mm	8	14
Cricket/Football Pitch	14	50mm	8	14

4.5 **Grass cutting on designated wildflower friendly areas**

Type of Area	Max cuts per year	Height of cut
A170 verge east at New Road junction (Keldholme only) o/s sportsfield	2	50mm
A170 west at junctions with West Lund and West Lund Lane	2	50mm

Areas for wildflower growth specifications recorded at Minute 23170 dated 15 January 2024. Review of schedule discussed with contractor at meeting on 25 January, Cllrs Illingworth, Wells and the Town Clerk present.

Works to be undertaken by contractor

Activities to be carried out by volunteers

Preparation	The contractor will prepare the designated areas with a bare cut and scarify. Arising will need to be raked and removal. The area will then be ready for plug plants/seeds.
Spring cut	The area will be cut short at the beginning of the growing season

¹ Minute 23170 dated 15 January 2024 - schedule ammended to include designation of wildflower friendly areas

	The areas will need to be raked over and all arisings removed.
Autumn cut	The area will be cut short at the end of the growing season
	Arisings to be left in situ for a short period before raking and removal.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ A 1m berth will need to be retained, and mowed at the same frequency as the remaining verges, on the roadside in order to keep visibility splays clear. ◦ Frequent mowing around any street furniture, including In Bloom planters, within the designated wildflower friendly areas. 	

4.6 HOVER TYPE and ROTARY MOWERS

4.6.1 The whole area shall be cut leaving no areas uncut between rows and producing an even height across the whole area. The total number of cuts and the height of cut shall be such that at no time shall the height of grass exceed the limits shown:

Type of Area	Max cuts per year	Height of cut (to be not greater than 50mm)	Working days between cuts	
			Min	Max
A170 verge	14	50mm	8	21
Residential	14	50mm	8	14
Cricket/Football Pitch	14	50mm	8	14

4.6.2 Grass clippings shall lie where they fall except in the case of those falling on paths, drives, car parks or other such similar areas, in such cases grass clippings shall be swept from the surface before the Contractor leaves the site.

4.6.3 Cut grass shall only be removed on instruction of the Authorised Officer and/or on occasion when a significant period has lapsed between cuts, due to extreme weather conditions, thereby allowing the grass to grow in excess and subsequently producing an excess of grass cuttings. The Council has no objection to the Contractor removing cut grass and using it for its own purposes.

4.7 STRIMMING

4.7.1 Certain areas are inaccessible or of such a nature that they are only considered suitable for mowing using nylon head cutting machines 'Strimmers'. In such areas the standard height to be cut must not exceed 50mm.

4.7.2 Any arisings falling onto adjoining areas shall be swept and raked back onto the 'strimmed area'.

4.7.3 All edges abutting footways, cultivated areas, walls etc are to be carefully cut back using a strimmer or similar approved appliance. Grass around the base of trees, posts, lighting columns etc is to be cut back in the same way, taking care not to

damage any of them. No herbicide is to be used to stop grass growth around the base of trees, posts, lighting columns etc.

4.8 Any areas of flowers in bloom, such as crocuses, daffodils, bluebells etc, shall not be cut unless directed by the Authorised Officer.

4.9 The presence of stands of injurious plants and weeds shall be reported to the Authorised Officer (e.g. Spear Thistle, Ragwort, Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam).

5.0 EDGING

5.0.1 General

The Contractor will be required to form neat edges to grassed areas where they abut all flower beds, shrub beds, rose beds, heather beds, herbaceous borders, tree bases and channels at the base of all wall lines, fence lines, kerbs etc. All functions will be carried out at the times specified.

5.0.2 Trimming grassed edges (weeks 12 – 40)

During the growing season the edges of grass areas specified in the contract areas, shall be trimmed with edging shears or other approved mechanical means, 14 times evenly spread throughout the growing season.

Growth shall not be permitted to exceed 60mm. All arisings from this operation to be collected and removed from site. The edge must be left clean and tidy leaving no snags, roots, grass or weeds along the vertical of the soil edge below the trimmed grass. The edge must be kept as straight and uniform as possible not destroying the vertical soil edge.

5.0.3 Litter/Arisings

Each time edging is carried out, litter will be removed from all channels, fencelines, tree bases, obstacles, etc. All arisings will be removed and disposed of at the Contractor's tip at the end of each working day. All rates quoted for edging will be deemed to have included for keeping the adjacent channel, flower bed, shrub bed, tree base etc, clean and tidy each time edging is carried out.

6.0 Contract Areas

Please see attached plans, areas of grass cutting designated by dots:

P2a Gillamoor Road, Keld Head Road

P2b Gillamoor Road, Ryedale View

P2c West Pasture

P2d A170 east, Queensway

P2d A170 west, Westfields

P2e A170 east, New Road (including wildflower friendly designation)

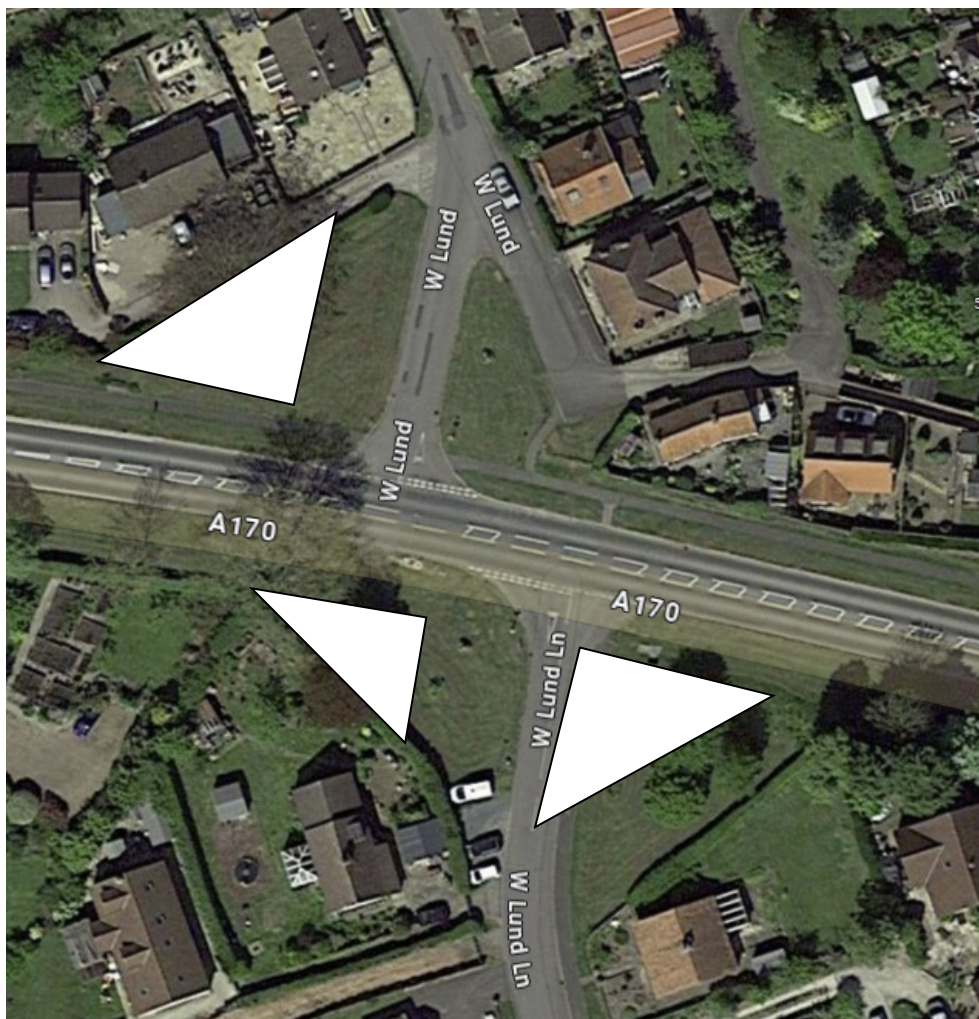
P2e A170 west, West Lund Lane (including wildflower friendly designation)

P2e Old Road, Swineherd Lane

The following areas are designated as 'wildflower friendly' verges:
A170 east at the junction on New Road (marked Keldholme only), outside the Sports field.



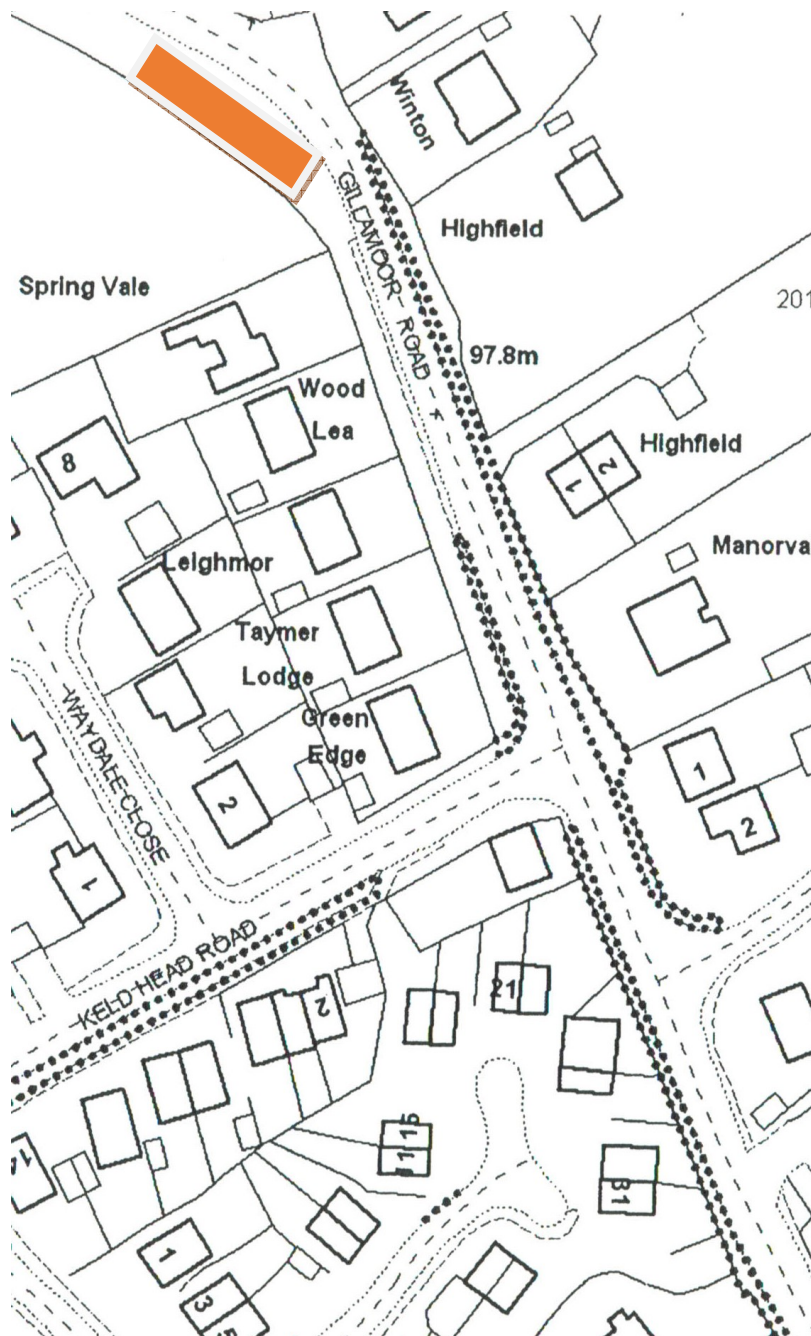
A170 west at the junctions of West Lund and West Lund Lane:



Minute 23170 dated 15 January 2024 (Extract) Agenda item 8. Wildflower Friendly Verges

- b. The designation of the area between New Road and the A170, outside the sports field, to trial the promotion of wildflowers (Minute 23070 dated 17 July 2023) was **noted** and designation of additional areas was **considered**.

With regards to the designation of alternative areas, Cllr Wells proposed the areas on opposite sides of the A170 in proximity to West Lund and West Lund Lane. Another area for consideration would be on the verge of Gillamoor Road beyond the stone mill town sign. **Agreed**.



This area of verge not within the Town Council's grass cutting designation.