
Kirkbymoorside Town Council

Information for the meeting on Monday 18 May 2026

15. Biodiversity and Grass Verge Management

Nature Bank adjacent to the A170 at the junction with West Lund Lane

I visited the Nature Bank on 1 May. Daffodils had finished flowering and were dying back. There were clumps of cowslips flowering and Spanish Bluebells. Other plants I identified that were not yet flowering were:

- Birds Foot Trefoil (a good plant for bees),
- Ribwort plantain (an important food plant for the caterpillars of many species of butterfly)
- Clover (a source of nectar for many pollinators)
- Yellow Rattle (the seeds were planted in 2024 and 2025) A few plants were present in 2025 but there are many more now. This will help to reduce the growth of grass and allow more wild flowers to flourish)

Grassy area near the weir Keldholme.

This year I have identified these plants in flower:

- April - Marsh Marigold, buttercups, daisies, wild garlic
- May-Cuckoo Flower, Creeping Comfrey, Garlic Mustard, Cow Parsley, Crosswort, Ground Ivy, White Dead Nettle, Red Campion and Indian Rhubarb

As we discussed last year bulrushes are also present in abundance!

C Dowie

11/5/2026

- a. **To consider designating the area near the weir as a nature area and installing a blue heart**
- b. **To consider reducing the number of road verge cuts per year from 14 to 11 with reference to the 'Good Verge Guide'**
- c. **To also consider leaving an uncut area close to any hedges or other boundaries except where this would block visibility for road users**
- d. **To note that at their AGM Kirkbymoorside Tennis Club agreed to designate the two banks each side of the steps near the tennis courts as nature areas**
- e. **To note the response from the Kirkbymoorside Bowling Club regarding nature areas**

We have discussed the possibility of having an area designated as a nature area within the confines of the Bowling Club.

We have no grassy areas as such. The green is bordered on 3 sides by a Leylandii hedge. Alongside the hedge, 2 sides are bordered by a gravelled border which is planted with evergreen shrubs, heathers and perennial plants, giving the area a moorland feel. Any gaps we will fill with bee & insect friendly plantings.

One of our members makes Bug Boxes for charity and he has placed a number of these in strategic places around the green and club house area.

Alec Young, Kirkbymoorside Bowls Club

- f. To note Kirkbymoorside Environment Group is holding a Nature Day in the Memorial Hall on Saturday June 13 2026

