



September 2020

Wildlife Verges Update

Braunton Parish Council are keen to encourage more local community groups to get involved with managing Devon's verges for wildlife and now have tools available for groups to borrow.

Life on the Verge has recently completed its trial project and Braunton have been fortunate to take on the project's tools which will be made available for local wildlife verge management.

In 2019, the Parish Council and community volunteers worked with the Life on the Verge—Biosphere project to develop two areas on the Tarka Trail. A recent survey of the



area seeded behind the fire station shows the dominant plant is wild carrot although quite a few other species are also present including eyebright, knapweed, yellow rattle, timothy grass, crested dogs tail and oxeye daisy. There were a few foraging insects such as red tailed bumblebee present among the plants.

Jo Pullin, the coordinator of the Life on the Verge—Biosphere project said "This three and a half year project, hosted by the Tarka Country Trust, has seen communities across the region identify, adopt and manage verges for the benefit of both wildlife and people. As this pilot project comes to a close we're confident that the communities engaged with the project will continue their great work and the good practices we've developed will spread to new communities. Anyone wishing to adopt a verge for wildflowers can find out how at www.tarkacountrytrust.org.uk/love-b.html" Jo went on to say "I'd like to say a huge thank you to Braunton Parish Council, after working closely with them, as they have agreed to host the project's community tools so that volunteers can continue their verge management tasks well into the future."