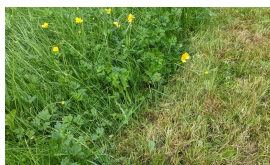


Grant  
Funding  
Received



The Close



Community  
Orchard



Pitton  
Nature  
Trust

Registered Charity  
No. 1203375



## Welcome

This is our first newsletter providing supporters with updates on the work of Pitton Nature Trust. In this edition there is an update on our two main projects; the creation of a biodiverse area on The Close and establishing a Community Orchard on Wiltshire Council land at Roundbarrow Farm.

To date the focus has been establishing the charity and securing initial funding. We are extremely grateful to the Wessex Water Foundation Environmental Fund which awarded us £1,900 of grant funding.

We have now reached the stage where we will be recruiting volunteers to assist us with a range of tasks and seeking donations to fund our activities.

Our website [pittonnaturetrust.org.uk](http://pittonnaturetrust.org.uk) provides more details of our work, with information on how you can volunteer and make donations. It also has details about all our trustees. We are extremely grateful to Ged Mirski-Fitton for his support in helping us develop and maintain the site.

## The Story So Far

Here is a brief timeline of the charity's first year:

### **March 2023**

The trustees established a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and an application was made to the Charity Commission to become a registered charity.



### **April 2023**

Pitton Nature Trust became a member of the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO).

### **June 2023**

Pitton Nature Trust was registered with the Charity Commission (Charity No. 1203375).

The charity opened a bank account with the Co-Operative Bank.

### **July 2023**

Grant funding of £1,900 approved by the Wessex Water Foundation Environmental Fund.

### **September 2023**

The charity submitted a proposal to Pitton & Farley Parish Council for a management agreement to create a biodiverse wildlife area on part of The Close.

The charity submitted a proposal to Pitton & Farley Parish Council and Wiltshire Council for the creation of a Community Orchard on land at Roundbarrow Farm.

### **December 2023**

Management agreement signed with the Parish Council in relation to The Close.

### **March 2024**

Funding received from the WessexWater Environmental Fund.

### **April 2024**

Work started on The Close.

### **May 2024**

Paths cut through The Close to encourage access.

## Community Orchard

We are awaiting confirmation from Wiltshire Council on details of the area of land on Roundbarrow Farm which will be transferred to the Parish Council for the creation of a Community Orchard.

Once the land is transferred we will be seeking to reach a long-term management agreement with the Parish Council for the charity to create and manage the orchard for the benefit of the local and wider community for generations to come.



In the meantime we are submitting a funding application to Coronation Heritage Living Orchard fund administered by Wiltshire Council for funding to purchase trees for the Orchard.

## The Close

In December 2023 we signed a seven year management agreement with the Parish Council to create a biodiverse wildlife area on part of The Close.

We have developed a five year management plan for this project which can be viewed on our website.

As part of our management plan we sent soil samples to a specialist for advice on what plants were best suited to this area. The experts identified that the area was rich in phosphates and we were advised to strip the grass and a top layer of soil before planting or sowing wildflowers.

Our experiment started with stripping a couple of patches and planting wildflower plug plants; Yellow Rattle, Oxeye Daisies, Field Scabious and Cornflowers, we have our fingers crossed that the plug plants will endure, disperse their seed and come back stronger next year.

We will learn from this experiment whether stripping more grass will enable wildflowers to proliferate and if so, which wildflowers are best suited to the high phosphorus soil conditions. Or if we need adopt a different approach to increase the diversity of flowers to attract pollinators.

Paths are being cut through the area to increase access and in the coming months the local Guides group will be building a “bug house” to attract more insects.





## Volunteers

We are grateful to everyone who has already offered to volunteer to help us deliver our projects.

If you would like to help please contact one of the trustees or email us at [volunteering@pittonnaturetrust.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@pittonnaturetrust.org.uk)

## Donations

As we develop our projects we will require additional funding. If you would like to make a donation to support our work visit our website or contact Lyn our Treasurer [treasurer@pittonnaturetrust.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@pittonnaturetrust.org.uk)



**Pitton Nature Trust**

**Our Objective:**  
To conserve, protect and improve the physical and natural environment by promoting biodiversity in the local area.




We have signed a seven year agreement with the Parish Council to manage The Close.

The two stripped patches are an experiment to see what wildflower will grow in a soil which is high in phosphorous. Yellow rattle, cornflower, oxeye daisies, and field scabious plugs have been planted together with wildflower seeds.

Do walk through the paths we are cutting to view what nature is producing on its own, but please clear up after your dog.



The autumn will see native bulbs being planted and the addition of a bug hotel and bird boxes.

Watch this space for other projects coming soon!  
**Pittonnaturetrust.org.uk**  
If you have any suggestions please contact us - details are on our website.  
Charity Number 1203375



## Pitton Carnival

Come and visit us at Pitton Carnival the trustees will be available to answer any questions about the charity and we would love to hear any ideas you have about our projects or other initiatives you think we should consider.

There will be an opportunity for you to sign up as a volunteer and to make donations to support our work.

**Use our QR code for quick access to our website and to read our latest news!**



## Our Trustees

- Paul (Fred) Fredericks (Chair)**
- Lindsay Thompson (Secretary)**
- Lyn Fredericks (Treasurer)**
- Rosie Lane (Safeguarding lead)**
- Gary Pitt (Volunteer Coordinator)**