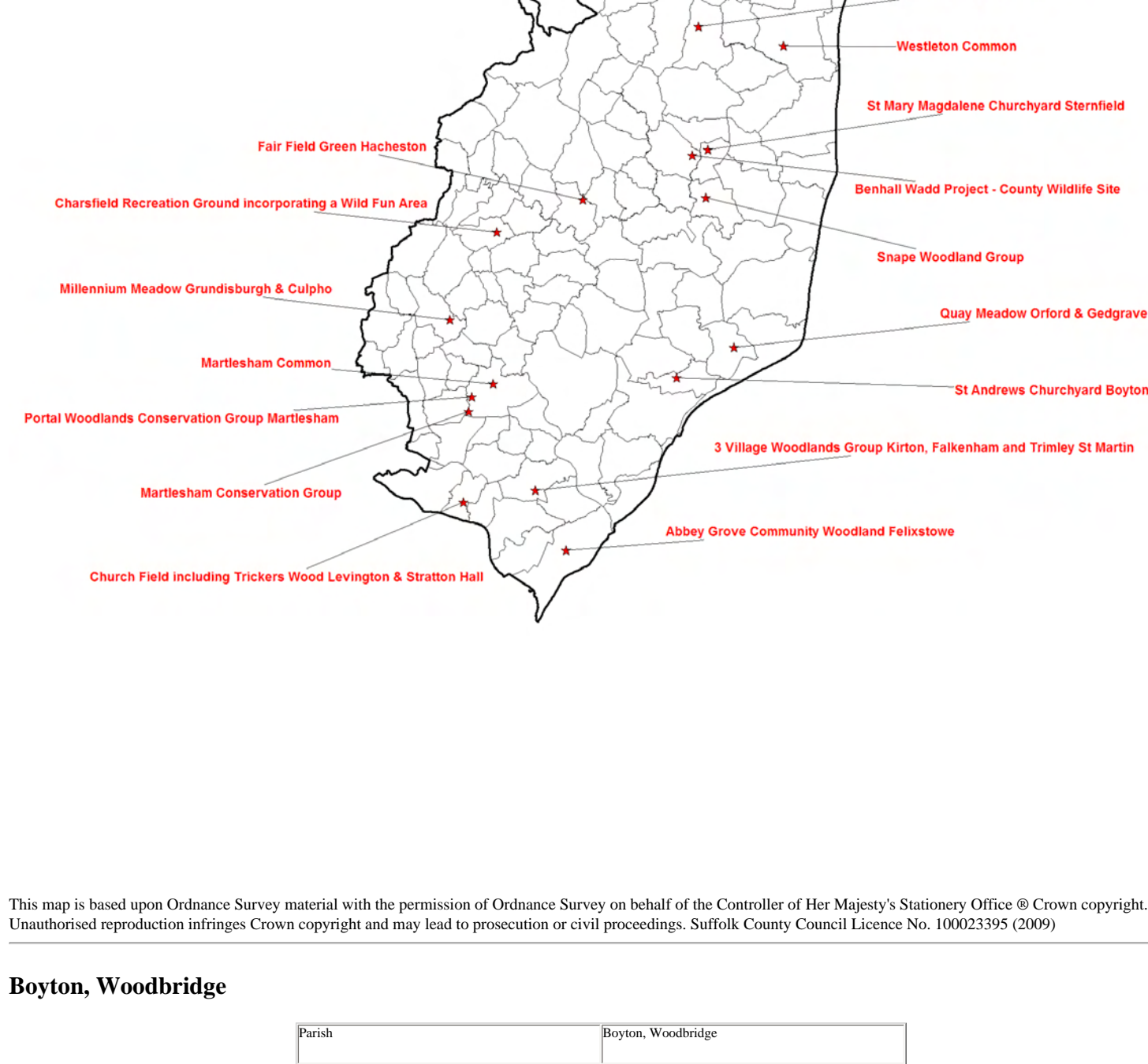


## Suffolk Coastal - Community Projects



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### Boyton, Woodbridge

Parish	Boyton, Woodbridge
Project name	St Andrews Churchyard Boyton
Website	None
Type of project	Churchyard
Date project started	Ongoing for many years
Aims	To protect flora in churchyard
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Group established	Not recently
Work done	Mowing work undertaken with help of local prison.
Management plan	Yes (Suffolk Wildlife Trust)
Difficulties	Lack of interest & commitment. Training needed for species identification.
Achievements	Protection of wild flowers in churchyard.
Future plans	Repair & replace boundary fence to protect wild flowers from rabbit damage.
Notes	Parish participated in Suffolk Hedgehog survey.

[Return to map](#)

### Charsfield

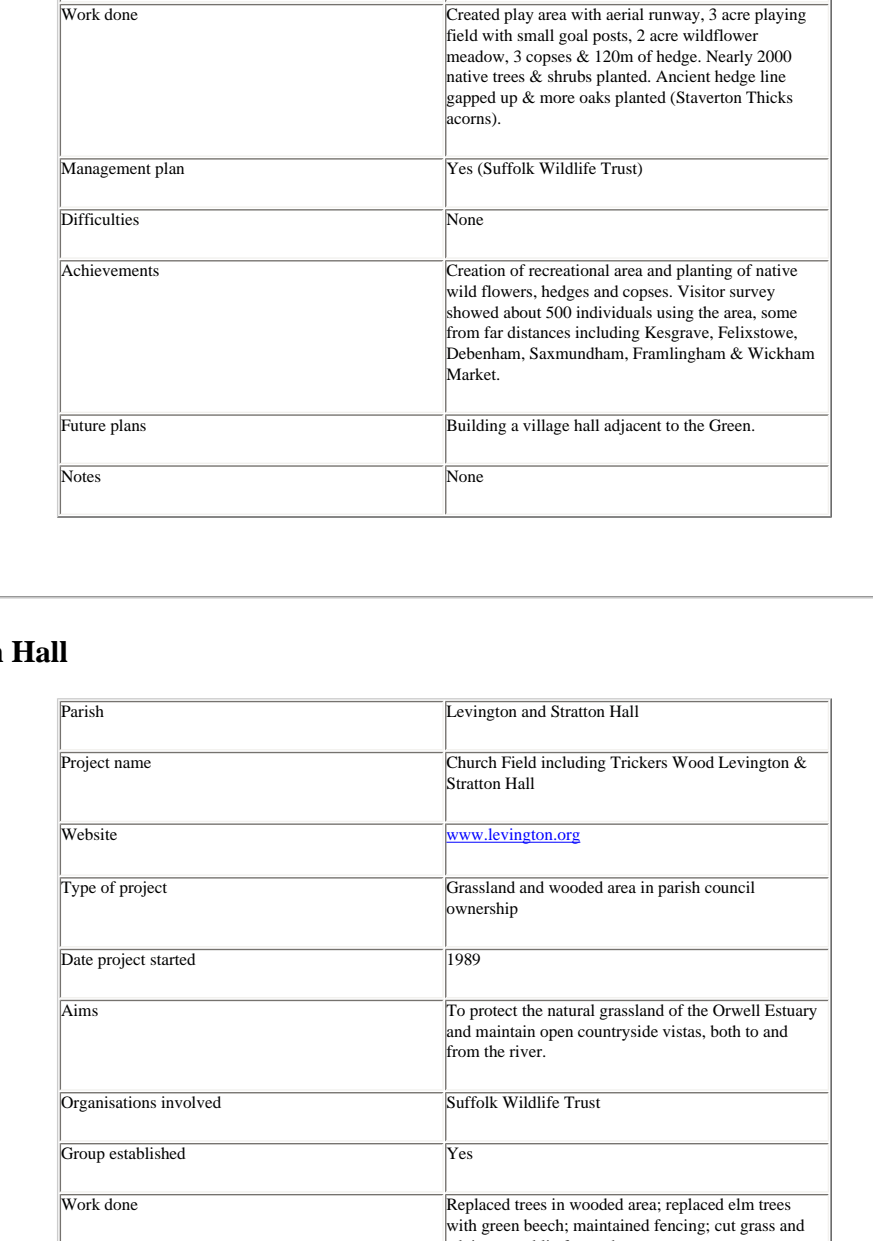
Parish	Charsfield
Project name	Charsfield Recreation Ground incorporating a Wild Fun Area
Website	None
Type of project	A recreation ground including sports facilities, play equipment and a dedicated wild life area. The whole field is being developed with consideration to wildlife.
Date project started	2003
Aims	To provide a habitat where people of all ages and disabilities and wildlife can thrive together.
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust (SWT) provided a 5 year management plan for the Wild Fun area and green hay for a wild flower meadow.
Group established	Charsfield Recreation Ground Committee formed (1999).
Work done	New hedging planted: 43 native trees planted as small wood; laid down poor quality meadow & spread green hay for a wild flower meadow.
Management plan	Business plan for whole project and separate 5 year management plan for "Wild Fun" area (SWT).
Difficulties	Fund raising in competition with other village organisations. Practical problems with steeply sloping, shrouded about 500 individuals. Delay of 2 years, some increased cost of £18,000 due to compliance with new government flood legislation.
Achievements	Erected picnic benches & pagoda, planted trees & willow play structures, laid wild flower meadow; constructed wheelchair & buggy friendly path. The site is rich in wildlife with magnificent views & has become a "meeting place" to observe nature.
Future plans	We hope to erect bat and bird boxes, and are trying to establish a pedestrian footpath to the field (currently the only access is via an unpaved road).
Notes	Committee is well supported by villagers.



[Return to map](#)

### Felixstowe

Parish	Felixstowe
Project name	Abbey Grove Community Woodland Felixstowe
Website	<a href="http://www.wt-woods.org.uk/abbeygrove">www.wt-woods.org.uk/abbeygrove</a>
Type of project	Owned by the Woodland Trust and was part of the Woodlands On Your Doorsteps community project. Abbey Grove woodland planted by the Woodland Trust with the help of the local community.
Date project started	2001
Aims	To maintain and enhance Abbey Grove Woodland for the community and wildlife
Organisations involved	Woodland Trust (WT) - Abbey Grove volunteers are an affiliated WT group. Volunteers maintain the site following WT management plan & policies. WT pay for annual costs & running of the group. Suffolk Owl Project, Suffolk Wildlife Trust (annual surveys).
Group established	Yes
Work done	Maintenance of paths & rides, hedgehog planting & maintenance, bramble clearance, coppicing, hedge laying, mammal survey, meadow management, habitat pile creation & slug beetle habitat creation. Weekly work parties, Community open days, education visits.
Management plan	Yes, www.wt-woods.org.uk/abbeygrove/managementPlan.asp
Difficulties	None
Achievements	Transforming a barren 10 acre site into a wonderful, species-rich, pleasant woodland for wildlife and the adjacent town community.
Future plans	Ongoing maintenance, erect bird boxes and convert WW2 pill box into a bat roost.
Notes	"The volunteer warden, also a long serving parish councillor would love to see a community orchard in the parish and old orchards are a biodiversity priority. Anyone interested in taking the lead, please contact Gea Broad, Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership



[Return to map](#)

### Grundisburgh & Culpho

Parish	Grundisburgh & Culpho
Project name	Millennium Meadow Grundisburgh & Culpho
Website	<a href="http://www.one Suffolk.co.uk/GrundisburghPCC/Conservation">www.one Suffolk.co.uk/GrundisburghPCC/Conservation</a>
Type of project	Unimproved wet meadow
Date project started	1997 - opened July 2000
Aims	To celebrate the Millennium by provision of the first conservation area (open to the public) in the parish.
Organisations involved	Greenways Countryside Project (Ipswich & area), Finance: Shell Better Britain & Parish Council. Lease: Lord Cranworth
Group established	Yes, but very few participants
Work done	Hedge planting & fencing; bridge access; other bridges; rustic seats; beetle banks; bird & bat boxes; flora enhancement (orchids); interpretation boards.
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	Yes, in a parish of 1600+, very few are willing to make even a small physical contribution to the management.
Achievements	The first natural area in the parish to have public access by right. Significant increase in flora and fauna. Recognition and appreciation by neighbours and parishioners.
Future plans	Further encouragement for orchids, snakes head fritillaries & ongoing management. Involvement of young people - school/scouts, Bird hide?
Notes	The voluntary warden, also a long serving parish councillor would love to see a community orchard in the parish and old orchards are a biodiversity priority. Anyone interested in taking the lead, please contact Gea Broad, Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership

[Return to map](#)

### Hacheston

Parish	Hacheston
Project name	Fair Field Green Hacheston
Website	None
Type of project	Village Green
Date project started	2005
Aims	To create a playing field area incorporating a wildflower meadow, hedges and woodland
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Coastal District Council provided oak saplings.
Group established	Steering Group no longer meets regularly as project completed. Steering Group is consulted about changes/approvals/problems.
Work done	Created play area with aerial runway, 3 acre playing field with small goal posts, 2 acre wildflower meadow, 3 copses & 12m of hedge. Nearly 2000 native trees & shrubs planted. Ancient hedge line gapped up & more oaks planted (Staverston Thicks income).
Management plan	Yes (Suffolk Wildlife Trust)
Difficulties	None
Achievements	Creation of recreational area and planting of native wild flowers, hedges and copses. Visitor survey showed about 500 individuals. Delay of 2 years, some from far distances including Kesgrave, Felixstowe, Dabholam, Saxmundham, Framlingham & Wickham Market.
Future plans	Building a village hall adjacent to the Green.
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

### Levington and Stratton Hall

Parish	Levington and Stratton Hall
Project name	Church Field including Trickers Wood Levington & Stratton Hall
Website	<a href="http://www.levington.org">www.levington.org</a>
Type of project	Grassland and wooded area in parish council ownership
Date project started	1989
Aims	To protect the natural grassland of the Orwell Estuary and maintain open countryside vistas, both to and from the river.
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Group established	Yes
Work done	Replanted trees in wooded area; replaced elm trees with green beech; maintained fencing; cut grass and edging to public footpath
Management plan	Yes: <a href="http://www.oneSuffolk.co.uk/LevingtonPC/Conservation/">www.oneSuffolk.co.uk/LevingtonPC/Conservation/</a>
Difficulties	None
Achievements	Maintaining a natural environment by avoiding a 'manicured' approach, such as creating wood piles from rotting wood to encourage insect life. The area is therefore also used by local wildlife such as deer and pheasants.
Future plans	To retain the naturalness of this small area and not over populate with trees. See Management Plan for further details.
Notes	None of these areas are open public places, but public footpaths pass through or nearby.

[Return to map](#)

### Martlesham

Parish	Martlesham
Project name	Portal Woodlands Conservation Group Martlesham
Website	<a href="http://www.martlesham.org.uk/portalwoodlandsgroup/">www.martlesham.org.uk/portalwoodlandsgroup/</a>
Type of project	Woodland conservation
Date project started	1999
Aims	To preserve the woodland habitat flora and fauna for the enjoyment of woodland walkers
Organisations involved	Suffolk Fringe to Fringe project, Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Coastal District Council, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Amphibian & Reptile Group, Martlesham Parish Council.
Group established	Yes
Work done	Chaired out dumped rubbish, planted more than 800 hedge and tree plants, created a pond, repaired and made path network, started young persons Watch group, carried out surveys and public displays.
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	Getting funding and volunteers.
Achievements	Creation of wildlife pond, Nature Watch group for young people.
Future plans	Set up an education area.
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

### Martlesham

Parish	Martlesham
Project name	Martlesham Conservation Group
Website	<a href="http://www.martlesham.suffolk.gov.uk/">www.martlesham.suffolk.gov.uk/</a>
Type of project	Conservation of Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), birch woods on Martlesham Heath
Date project started	1983
Aims	To bring SSSI up to standard condition from decline.
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, BTCV, Butterfly Conservation, Greenways Project
Group established	Yes
Work done	Annual butterfly and bird transects, reptile surveys
Management plan	Yes (through the SSSI)
Difficulties	Funding and volunteers
Achievements	Data gathered on Silver-studded blue butterfly (Biodiversity Action Plan species)
Future plans	Stop SSSI decline
Notes	None



[Return to map](#)

### Martlesham

Parish	Martlesham
Project name	Martlesham Common
Website	None
Type of project	Lowland heath and small woodland
Date project started	1986
Aims	Conservation of heathland as Silver returned of characteristic species, such as Snowy plover (lost meadow on)
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Greenways Project, Martlesham Conservation Group, Suffolk County Council.
Group established	No. Works managed by parish council
Work done	Started to clear invasive gorse and trees. Survey of invertebrates.
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	Yes
Achievements	To date, a defined path.
Future plans	Apply for Higher Level Stewardship agri-environment scheme
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

### Orford & Gedgrave

Parish	Orford & Gedgrave
Project name	Quay Meadow Orford & Gedgrave
Website	None
Type of project	A grassland meadow as a village amenity for use by parishioners and visitors.
Date project started	1999/2000
Aims	1. To provide an area of managed countryside as a haven for wildlife and an amenity for people. 2. To change the quality of very rich grassland to enable wildflowers to flourish.
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, British Trust for Ornithology
Group established	Various councillors take responsibility for the meadow at different times. The meadow is run by councillors who are also Trustees of New Orford Towns Trust which owns the meadow.
Work done	Boundary hedges planted & gapped up, planned wild flower plugs & spring bulbs. Hedges, bushes & small trees allowed to grow to encourage wildlife; dead wood left on site for insects. Meadow cut & cuttings removed to encourage diversity of plants.
Management plan	Yes, updated as necessary
Difficulties	1. Lack of willingness to spend money on this project. 2. Lack of continuity due to changes in personnel. 3. Insufficient knowledge. Sometimes the project has to run on compromise.
Achievements	1. Used regularly by local people & visitors throughout the year; it provides a safe, pleasant & green space to use. 2. Project recognised as contributing factor for Orford winning the Open Space category for Suffolk Village of the Year Awards 2008.
Future plans	1. Make a small area of the meadow suitable for wild flowers. 2. Continue to inform people about management of meadow & explain why a wild flower meadow here is very ambitious & will take many years to achieve. 3. Survey of the meadow using experts.
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

### Wenhaston

Parish	Wenhaston
Project name	
Website	
Type of project	
Date project started	
Aims	
Organisations involved	
Group established	
Work done	
Management plan	
Difficulties	
Achievements	
Future plans	
Notes	

[Return to map](#)

Project name	Wenhaston Commons Group
Website	None
Type of project	1. Commons Group; 2. Churchyard; 3. Vicarage Grove; 4. Merion Wood; 5. Allotments
Date project started	Allotments 2008, all others 1984
Aims	To increase biodiversity
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, SCDC Planning & Leisure, Froglife, RSPB, Butterfly Conservation
Group established	Yes, Wenhaston Commons Group
Work done	1. Clearance and maintenance; 2. Created wildflower meadow; 3. Opened up access; 4. Put up bird boxes
Management plan	Yes, for the Common
Difficulties	None
Achievements	Increased biodiversity
Future plans	Ongoing, 2010 - about to embark on more record keeping
Notes	We're pretty busy!

[Return to map](#)

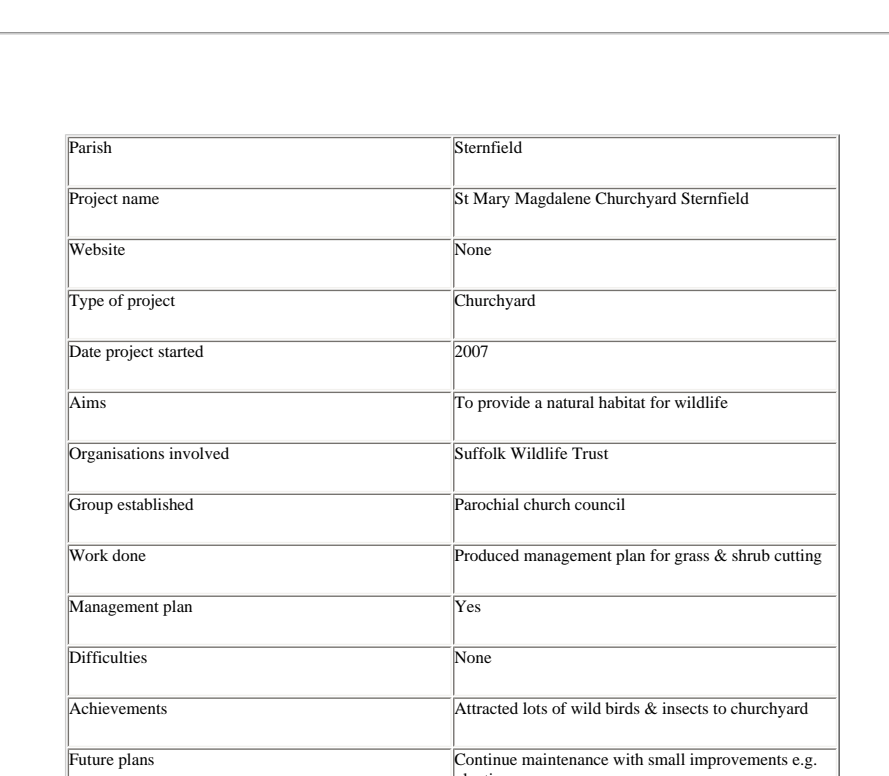
## Westleton

Parish	Westleton
Project name	Westleton Common
Website	<a href="http://www.westletoncommongroup.org.uk">www.westletoncommongroup.org.uk</a>
Type of project	Common
Date project started	2003
Aims	To increase and maintain biodiversity
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Project
Group established	Yes
Work done	Planted hedgerow, surveys of species, produce management plan, research into species
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	None
Achievements	Improvement of biodiversity, access and knowledge
Future plans	To continue the same for the foreseeable future
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

## Benhall and Sternfield

Parish	Benhall and Sternfield
Project name	Benhall Wadd Project - County Wildlife Site
Website	None
Type of project	Wetland/grassland conservation
Date project started	1978
Aims	To manage and maintain the area in a way which preserves and maximises biodiversity and allows access to local people.
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Unit
Group established	No. Parish Councillors and volunteers have been involved over the years. No formal group apart from PC which organises things.
Work done	Annual hay cutting regime; opened up habitat by tree removal & coppicing; hedge planting; species surveys; board walk erected.
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	Continual hard work has been necessary. At times it has been difficult to get help to assist with practical tasks. We had to establish the boundaries in places as local residents were inclined to see it as an extended garden or car park.
Achievements	Improved habitat for rarer wetland species; many people enjoy the area; good working relationship established with Ipswich Probation Service who bring work parties as part of the Community Payback Scheme.
Future plans	Continue present management and carry out rotational coppicing of some alders.
Notes	None



[Return to map](#)

## Sternfield

Parish	Sternfield
Project name	St Mary Magdalene Churchyard Sternfield
Website	None
Type of project	Churchyard
Date project started	2007
Aims	To provide a natural habitat for wildlife
Organisations involved	Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Group established	Parochial church council
Work done	Produced management plan for grass & shrub cutting
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	None
Achievements	Attracted lots of wild birds & insects to churchyard
Future plans	Continue maintenance with small improvements e.g. planting
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

## Kirton, Falkenham and Trimley St. Martin

Parish	Kirton, Falkenham and Trimley St. Martin
Project name	3 Village Woodlands Group Kirton, Falkenham and Trimley St Martin
Website	<a href="http://www.kirton-suffolk.info/orgs/3vwg/3vwm.htm">www.kirton-suffolk.info/orgs/3vwg/3vwm.htm</a>
Type of project	Churchyard and Community Woodland
Date project started	May 2007
Aims	Long term: to establish a Community Woodland on own land still to be acquired. Short term: management of woodland margins to Kirton Churchyard.
Organisations involved	Green Light Trust
Group established	Yes
Work done	Planted a tree nursery at the local primary school. Surveyed churchyard margin. Prepared management plan for Churchyard margin, work commenced November 2009.
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	The group cannot achieve its aspirations in full without acquiring land which ideally will be within 30 minutes walk of Trimley St. Martin CP School.
Achievements	1. Established a group of about 70 people interested in woodland issues. 2. Worked with Trimley St. Martin CP School, delivering Green Light Trust's 'Seed to Tree' programme & involved children in seed gathering, planting activities & social events.
Future plans	To acquire land for a community woodland created/maintained by the community and accessible to the general public. The woodland will be used as an educational resource encouraging future generations to nurture and expand the woodlands.
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

## Snape

Parish	Snape
Project name	Snape Woodland Group
Website	<a href="http://www.snapevillage.info/swg.php">www.snapevillage.info/swg.php</a>
Type of project	Woodland
Date project started	October 2003
Aims	Create and maintain a new woodland on behalf of the parish. This project aims to encourage community spirit from primary school age upwards and promote better awareness of nature plus increase the stock of native tree species and associated wildlife.
Organisations involved	Established through Green Light Trust. Steering group includes an RSPB area manager who provides advice and support. Connections established with Suffolk Wildlife Trust.
Group established	Yes
Work done	Planted a 2 acre site with young trees; established a pond in a natural land feature; worked with the local primary school to build and manage a tree nursery.
Management plan	There is no formal plan. Diary dates are made for planting and maintenance days and plans are discussed at regular minuted meetings.
Difficulties	Most of the difficulties to date have concerned fund raising and obtaining suitable land. The Group is stable and committed.
Achievements	Establishing a woodland area. Inclusion of the village school pupils, other groups and individuals. The site has engendered considerable interest. The path is fenced and no longer ploughed regularly, encouraging people to walk to the site.
Future plans	We are looking to extend the wood along the public footpath that passes it, this would increase the area by about 1.5 acres. We also intend to further develop the wood, bring existing hedges into control. This is a long term project.
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)

## Yoxford

Parish	Yoxford
Project name	Yoxwood Project Yoxford
Website	<a href="http://www.yoxwood.co.uk/">www.yoxwood.co.uk/</a>
Type of project	Community woodland
Date project started	May 2007
Aims	Create community wood of native trees for people and wildlife. Create a site maintained by the village for local people. Encourage and protect wildlife. Create a sense of responsibility in people by involvement, promote a better understanding of nature.
Organisations involved	Greenlight Trust & Suffolk Wildlife Trust
Group established	Yes
Work done	Planted seeds and 30 willow osiers; 2 fundraising events; finalised land lease; village walk; erected stock fencing and farm gate; grass cutting regime; developing management plan; install pedestrian gates and public opening
Management plan	Yes
Difficulties	Setting up the original steering group was relatively easy, and most of the original group is still with us. Fund raising is at times difficult as waiting for funding application results often slows the project down.
Achievements	Acquiring suitable land on a secure lease. Bringing people together to enjoy social activities. Involving younger people to nature. Increasing the number of trees. Getting people to work together in an enjoyable environment.
Future plans	Plant trees suitable for coppicing, so we can involve the village in building living willow structures. Organise regular village walks and improve funding so that we can hold more events for the village to enjoy. Consider taking on another plot of land.
Notes	None

[Return to map](#)