

## Wildflowers Flourish on Our Verges!



This spring and summer, we once again took part in a “no mow” initiative — leaving the grass on the Waterlow Road verge uncut during **May, June, and July** to encourage wildflowers and pollinators.

A plant survey carried out at the end of the season revealed a rich variety of flora, from rare and notable species to the much-loved common ones that bring colour to our roadsides.

There were around 31 species noted, but likely to have been more. The survey results are indicative of a more species rich grassland with a woodland edge influence, with more interesting plants starting to grow.

### Highlights included:

- **Notable species:**



Bitter Vetch



Common  
Spotted Orchid



Pyramid  
Orchid



Wood Anemone



Wood Sorrell

- **Locally uncommon species:**



Musk Mallow



Green Alkanet



Dog-Violet



Cinquefoil

- **Frequent but habitat-dependent species:** Ox-eye daisy, Lesser celandine, Self-heal, Yarrow, Wood avens, Herb Robert, White clover, Ragwort
- **Common species:** Creeping buttercup, Daisy, Dandelion, Curled dock, Broad-Leaf dock, Greater plantain, Thistle, Hogweed, Mouse-eared chickweed
- **Grasses:** Perennial rye grass, False oat grass, Common bent, Yorkshire fog

We plan to repeat the survey next year after another “no mow” season to see how the diversity and abundance of species develop over time.

By allowing nature a little space and time, we’re helping create valuable habitats for insects, birds, and other wildlife — and adding natural beauty to our community.