

WEST SWINDON PARISH COUNCIL

Planning & Environment Committee

Request for wilding

1. Information

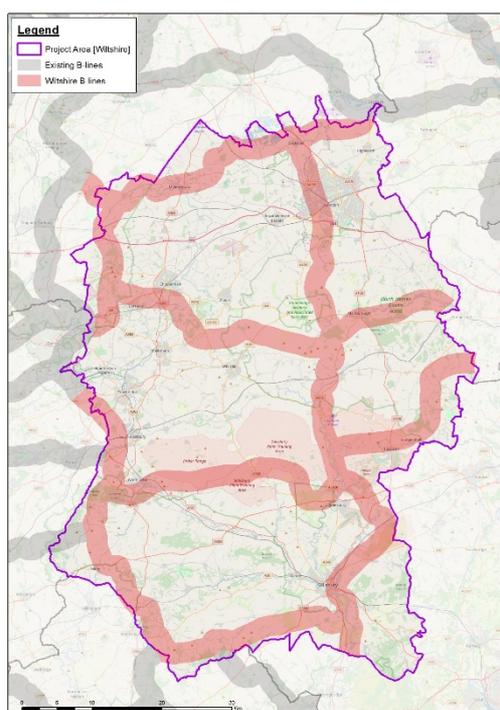
1.1 West Swindon Parish Council has received a request to turn a grass verge into a volunteer managed wildflower bed. The request is from a resident in Edgehill.

The request is as follows:

I would like to create a wildflower area between number 13 and 14 Edgehill. This would become part of the Bee Roadzz Swindon and the national project by Bug Life called B line. I have attached a map of the B line proposed wildlife corridor across Wiltshire and Swindon.

I am also in the process of creating a wildlife corridor in the gardens of Edgehill similar to that of the Kent Road Wildlife Corridor.

The area I am proposing for this wildflower meadow already has a fox den and leads off of Toothhill Park. This would be the beginning of the Edgehill Corridor and I hope to include the children and residents in creating it. I already have the support of those living alongside the area



- 1.2 The resident has asked that the area is not mown to enable local residents to manage it themselves. They would sign up to confirm they are compliant with the Parish Council's Risk Assessment for gardening volunteers.
- 1.3 The Parish office cannot confirm what level of local consultation has taken place, the area proposed is shown below:



2. Implications:

- 2.1 There are implications for the Parish Council for any volunteer-led project. The creation of wildflower areas in the Parish has had some occasional negative feedback. Neighbours may not be in agreement to the proposal, and opinions may change during the lifespan of the project. If the project ceases to be managed or falls into a poor state, there may be cost implications for the Parish Council to restore the area.

3. Recommendation:

- 3.1 For this Committee to note the request and consider its approval.

Paula Harrison
Parish Manager