

Manor Farm Field Biodiversity Project Management Plan

Version 13

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Management Operations	3
Feature 1 – Chalk grassland	3
Description	3
Objective	3
Management List	3
Issues/ Challenges	4
Funding	4
Feature 2 – Scalloped edges around the perimeter of the field	5
Current description	5
Objectives.....	5
Management list	5
Feature3– Hedgerow habitat.....	6
Description	6
Objectives.....	6
Management list	6
4 – Access, education and community involvement	7
Description	7
Objective	7
Management.....	7
5 – Legal and administrative management.....	9
Description	9
Objectives.....	9
Management list	9
6– Funding Sources	10
7– Project Risks.....	10
Sample Action Plan Years 1-3.....	12
Indicative Budget	16

Introduction

This Management Plan has been developed by a group of Jordans Village residents with the assistance of various advisers and experts from the Chiltern Rangers, Chilterns AONB and Berks Bucks Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT). It is anticipated that the Management Plan will commence in May 2023 after the current grazing license (see below) expires. It has been reviewed and approved by JVL and its solicitor and has been adopted by the Licensee.

Manor Farm Fields are two fields located either side of the footpath between Jordans and Seer Green and are owned by Jordans Village Limited (JVL). This project will bring the management of the North Field back into the Community in a way that will increase their resilience to climate change and reverse species degradation. Such action will benefit the whole Community for the long term and will help to meet the Jordans Climate Change Action Plan.

Both fields are currently subject to a license with John Casey, a local farmer, on an annual grazing license at a revenue to JVL of £1,300 pa. The fields are grazed year-round by ~20 beef cows alternating between the two fields; the fields are closed to the general public. The fields are heavily grazed and additional fodder brought in by the licensee has the effect of making the land more fertile and much less diverse in terms of soil, plant, and animals. The South Field is not part of this Management Plan and will continue to be licensed to John Casey.

A survey conducted in 2014 by Philip Irving (Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes Wildlife Sites Project) commissioned by Mary-Ann Hall, concluded that the biodiversity of Manor Farm Fields was poor. Observations by ecologists since, including John Shaw from the Chiltern Rangers in May 2022 confirmed this, with John describing the north field as “green in colour only”.

Project Vision

To manage the North Field of Manor Farm Fields to promote biodiversity:

- Allow the soil to regenerate and recover after years of fertiliser and pesticide use enabling the soil to capture and sequester carbon as part of climate change resilience.
- Encourage the naturally occurring flora and fauna that would be expected in a chalky grassland habitat.
- Increase the range of habitats within the fields to include grassland, some scrub around the edges (similar to Chalky Field) and an improved hedge habitat.
- Create a conservation project that the local community will value, engage with, and enjoy so promoting physical and mental wellbeing.

Management Operations

Feature 1 – Chalk grassland

Description

The North Field (area approx. 2.7 hectares (6.6 acres)) lies to the northeast of the public footpath that runs from Jordans to Seer Green and is bounded on its South East border by Wilton Lane. The field has been used most recently for beef cattle grazing during March to September and are left empty the rest of the year. The fields are typically chemically fertilised in March with a cut of grass taken early for feed. Additional feed is brought onto site and there is occasional herbicide use to control undesirable weeds (mainly ragwort).

As a result of this grazing regime, the field is rich in nitrogen resulting in a flora dominated by vigorous grasses to the exclusion of plants that would be typical of Chilterns chalk grassland. In turn, there are low levels of insects and therefore bird, small mammal and amphibia diversity and populations. There is evidence of larger mammals living in the hedgerows – expected to be fox, rabbit and possibly badger.

Objective

To maintain the existing area of open grassland but to manage them to favour the herbaceous vegetation and wild flowers native to chalky grassland, and a healthy population of butterflies and other insects that thrive on this habitat.

Management List

- 1.1 Years 1-3 carry out grass cutting annually in August/September to remove the dominant grass species (particularly rye grass) before they can store winter energy reserves and reduce overall fertility and reduce the dominance of rye grass. This to be done through:
 - a. Mechanical hay cutting (until this is unviable): work with a local farmer or equine establishment to provide zero cost service to cut grass and remove trimmings for hay once a year; AND
 - b. Animal grazing to reduce soil fertility: liaise with local livestock owner for autumn (so called aftermath grazing)/winter grazing with consideration to stock density and duration of grazing in a way that benefits the grassland habitat. The current farmer (John Casey) has indicated that he would be interested in providing cattle to meet this action.
 - c. Subject to the availability of funding, it may be possible to accelerate this process by harrowing the whole or a portion of the field in late autumn of the first year and reseeding with a suitable wildflower mix incorporating both annual and perennial seeds as well as grass species more suited to chalk grassland. This would take place after grazing in the autumn of 2023. It may be possible for a light graze in the Spring of 2024 (to keep any residual grasses low and prior to germination of both annual and perennial wildflowers) but in any event the cycle of grazing indicated above to recommence in the autumn of 2024.

- 1.2 Survey the site for baseline information and subsequent management purposes. Collect data – vegetation and insect survey in Year 1. Engage local wildlife monitoring groups for surveying advice and expertise.
- 1.3 Quarterly monitoring for ragwort and other undesirable plants. Manual removal if necessary.

Issues/ Challenges

- The field has been heavily fertilised (although we understand, not in 2022) – restoration to a species rich grassland could take up to 10 years, however there will be a noticeable short-term difference – longer grass later in the Summer (compared to grasses cut back by constant summer grazing) and return of limited wildflowers which will benefit insect diversity.
- There are areas of the field that have been colonised by dock and nettle as a result of high nitrogen levels particularly where cattle have congregated. These patches will need to be monitored with manual control potentially required.
- Limited amounts of ragwort may be present having spread from one of the neighbouring fields. This will need to be monitored to ensure the hay is of value when harvested. If necessary manual extraction will be required.
- There are some large fallen branches resting on the fence on the west side. These should be removed to prevent damage to the fence, and the resulting logs can be stacked as habitat piles in the adjacent woodland.
- The post and wire fence around the field is not currently stock proof, as about 10-15 metres of fencing on the west side of the field is almost horizontal. The previous licensee is responsible for this under his agreement with JVL, and we intend to remedy this problem with new supporting posts in cooperation with him or any other farmer wanting to graze his livestock on the field.
- For the longer term, the fence is showing its age. Some of the strainer posts and about half of the intermediate posts are rotten at their base. The fence is probably about 30 years old, and the boundary of the field is only stock proof because of the hedge and the support provided by the sound intermediate posts. Whether the fence will need replacing or whether the natural boundaries will provide sufficient barriers will have to be addressed in discussion with JVL in due course.

Funding

The main task on the fields would be the annual cut and removal of hay in August/September each year. It is fully expected that we will be able to source a farmer or equine establishment willing to conduct the harvest in return for the resulting hay (or feeding grazing animals) at no cost to the project. Aftermath grazing and early spring grazing (see 1.1(b) above) has already been agreed in principle by John Casey at no cost to the project.

The removal of the fallen branches will not incur any costs, and the cost of a few new fencing posts is not significant and may be shared with the farmer.

Feature 2 – Scalloped edges around the perimeter of the field

Current description

In general, the edges of the field are starkly delineated from the field itself either in the form of hedgerows or stock fencing bordering woodland. There are patches of blackthorn ingress from the hedgerows into the field and with some patches of brambles and nettles (particularly where the cattle have congregated around the gateway and water trough). The current perimeters are sub-optimal for biodiversity which is promoted by having a region of transition between two habitats (ecotone) i.e., more bushy growth between the open grassland and the boundary hedges and fences.

Objectives

To create a mosaic effect of bushy areas (scalloped in appearance) around the perimeter of the fields. This provides a valuable ecotone habitat between the vertical edges (hedges and tree line) and the open grassland. This will ensure a constant supply of suitable feeding and breeding habitat, especially for birds – the bed & breakfast approach. Other species benefit depending on their requirements, invertebrates such as butterflies will benefit from the open phases, whilst mammals will benefit from the older, denser stages which are more secretive and offer more protection.

Management list

To achieve a more graduated boundary the existing hedgerows would be allowed to grow outwards onto the fields in a scalloped fashion. As an alternative a more structured programme could be introduced:

- 2.1 Plant blackthorn, hawthorn, field maple, guelder rose and hazel in an approx. 10 x 5m block with smoothed corners particularly along boundaries formed by stock fencing. The following year, leave a ~10m gap along the boundary and then plant a further block of similar species. Each year follows the same pattern so that a graduated boundary is created around the whole field.
- 2.2 Once the mosaic planted blocks reach 10 years old, cut down and use the coppiced wood elsewhere in the project (eg for stakes and binders for hedge laying). This age is ideal as coppicing could be achieved using hand tools with volunteers (rather than power tools through contractors).
- 2.3 Collect data – monitor the presence of species associated with scrub/woodland edge habitat.

Issues/ Challenges

- Having areas growing out from existing hedgerows provides a valuable habitat, however, this needs to be managed to ensure it doesn't get too dense or spread too far into the grassland area. This can be mitigated by a combination of grazing and mechanical or manual removal provided regular monitoring is performed.
- The created intermediate boundary will require management. The programme though is designed to develop over time so only limited volunteer time will be needed in a given year. These types of discrete tasks are ideal for corporate sponsorship as arranged by the Chiltern Rangers.

- Any newly planted whips may need protection from rabbits and the cattle involved in aftermath grazing.

Funding

Allowing the hedges to grow out in an ordered fashion would involve no cost. Funding would be required to plant the mixed mosaic blocks of young trees but given the relatively small area involved each year would be at modest cost (estimated £300 per annum) that could be covered by discrete local fundraising, local community board funding or FiPL¹ grants.

Feature3– Hedgerow habitat

Description

Apart from a section bordered by woodland, most of the field is bordered by mixed native hedgerow. The hedgerows are in a mixed condition; ranging from the established hedge along the footpath which has been regularly flailed (last in 2021), through to the relatively recently planted northern boundary which is now tall enough to need maintenance and finally the boundary with Wilton Lane where the hedgerow is mixed with larger specimen trees including some large oaks. We understand that a recent report undertaken for JVL confirms the current condition of the boundary hedges but does indicate that no urgent remedial action is required. Note – THE LICENSEE needs confirmation from JVL as to exactly which hedgerows are owned by JVL and which are the responsibility of the bordering landowners. Discussions with the neighbouring landowners will then be required.

Objectives

To manage the hedgerows as important habitats for birds, invertebrates, and small mammals. The hedgerows should also act as link corridors between areas of woodland to create a larger joined up biodiverse landscape – in this case, the link would be between the ancient woodland (Green Wood) between Jordans and Seer Green through to Jordans Crutches Wood and even the new woodlands recently planted in the Quaker owned fields to the southeast of Jordans. Maintain the hedgerows as a perimeter edge to restrict access to the fields.

Management list

To be detailed to reflect JVL's recent review. Our suggestions include:

- 3.1 The recently flailed mature hedgerows – manage hedgerow by laying in next 3-10 years
- 3.2 Overgrown north hedgerow – manage hedgerow by laying
- 3.3 Establish a trimming timetable for the balance of the hedgerows.
- 3.4 Collect data – monitor the presence of species associate with the hedgerow habitat

¹ Farming in Protected Landscapes <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/funding-for-farmers-in-protected-landscapes>

Challenges/ Issues

- Hedge laying is a labour-intensive process which requires special skills and tools. The Chiltern Rangers have an established record of providing labour parties to lay hedges. This will be a long-term project; the laid hedge would only require trimming every three years thereafter with a laying not being required for a further 15 years.
- We need to seek confirmation of ownership of Wilton Lane boundary (believed to be Chiltern District Council) and the other hedgerow boundaries.
- We understand that that strip of woodland to the West of the North Field is also owned by JVL. We assume that this would continue to be managed by JVL and are not proposing any particular actions.

Funding

The Chiltern Rangers would charge at the rate of £840 per day (based on two rangers plus volunteer group) for hedge laying activity which would include all tools and insurance. This will be mitigated by offers of free Chiltern Ranger days provided by BBOWT and/or Chilterns AONB as well as the potential for FiPL grants. Additionally, it is anticipated that local community volunteers could be trained to lay hedges if the demand for such existed.

4 – Access, education and community involvement

Description

Currently, there is no public access or educational activity on Manor Farm Fields. Much dog walking and recreational activities occur on the footpaths and surrounding open spaces. The path between the fields is a well-used walking route between Jordans and Seer Green being the only safe walking route (as there are limited footpaths on the roads).

Objective

To engage the local communities of Seer Green and Jordans such that the north field is viewed as a valued community asset: to encourage active community participation; build awareness and knowledge of managing land to promote biodiversity; to gather support through fund raising and volunteer time; and to benefit physical and mental wellbeing. This will be achieved through enhanced communication (including social media, organised work parties). The field would remain closed to general public access outside of these.

Management

- 4.1 Raise awareness of the project through representation and activities at local events such as Jordans Village Fair, SG Allotment Open Day, Seer Green School Summer Fair.
- 4.2 Communicate about the project and updates through:
 - a. Erect an information board at the top of the central footpath – for example, could include information about the project, where to find out more, recording of recent sightings. This will require a planning application to and prior consent from JVL before it can be installed.
 - b. Dedicated social media presence – WhatsApp group, Facebook page (or section on Jordans Village Facebook page), Instagram.

- c. In village newsletters such as the bimonthly parish magazine and Jordans monthly e-newsletter, plus WhatsApp groups
 - d. Dedicated space on Jordans Village and JVL website
- 4.3 Develop environmental visits/programmes with formal and informal local organisations as resources allow. The purpose would be to build understanding of how to manage land to promote biodiversity, gather support through fund raising and volunteering, benefit physical and mental wellbeing.
- 4.4 Develop and deliver open days (at least one per year) to engage the community with the impacts of the project on biodiversity such as ecological monitoring activities, a 'safari' with experts, make activities (e.g., bird boxes)

Other than the Licensee and Licensor, who else will have access to the field?

For clarification, the above management activities (4.1 -4.4 include the following group types:

- Working groups

Other groups will assist the Licensee working on the North Field from time to time to implement the Management Plan – this will include small groups of volunteers, and representatives of other groups advising the Licensee (e.g., Chiltern Rangers, Bucks Berks Oxon Wildlife Trust (BBOWT) and Chiltern Conservation Board (CCB)). The presence of these groups will not constitute public access. It is not expected that working group numbers will exceed 15 persons at any one time.

- Educational visits

In due course the Licensee may want to invite groups from local schools or other organisations to engage with and learn from the project. This will involve no more than 3 groups per year, with anticipated numbers being a normal class size plus the required number of accompanying adults (varies according to age of children and special needs support). These visits will be accompanied by the Licensee. It is not expected that educational group numbers will exceed 50 persons at any one time.

- Community

We propose one open day per year where the local community are invited to visit the field and engage with activities to support and learn from the efforts to support biodiversity – such as through 'safari' style talks, make activities like building bird boxes, and contributing to wildlife monitoring data. This event will be open to the entire village, akin to other community events. It is not expected that open day attendees will exceed 50 persons at any one event.

Reasons for Access and Working hours

It is envisaged that access to the North Field will be for a combination of the following purposes:

1. Heavy work – comprising hedge laying, brush cutting, mowing, ground preparation. This work may require machinery - the tools involved may include chainsaws, brush

cutters / trimmers and chippers. Ground preparation may include harrowing using a tractor or rotavating. These tools by their nature can be noisy and will only be used for reasonable periods during normal working hours.

2. Light work – mainly planting. This may involve a number of volunteer parties over the year. Due to other working commitments of potential volunteers, it may be necessary to schedule these sessions at weekends as well as during the working week.
3. Surveys – different sorts of plant, insect, bird and other surveys. This work is likely to be undertaken by small groups and by its nature be quiet. Some surveys may be best undertaken outside of working hours or at weekends and possibly during hours of dawn and dusk. Wildlife surveys typically take place during Spring and Summer.
4. Open days – one per year. Likely to include ‘safari style’ talk, wildlife monitoring and craft activities. To take place on a weekend day during a suitable time in the Jordan’s social calendar.
5. Educational visits – expecting up to 3 per year. Likely to include wildlife monitoring, light work, or other curriculum appropriate activities. Will occur at times appropriate to the group e.g., a school group will be on a weekday during term time, a Scout/Brownie visit will be late afternoon/early evening on a weekday in term time.

We estimate that the total of all types of activity in the fields will amount to around 50 days per year.

5 – Legal and administrative management

Description

As well as management of the site for biodiversity, education and access, the site must also be managed in line with JVL’s policies as a landowner.

Currently, maintenance of hedgerows and fences is the responsibility of the licensee farmer but in some areas the fence is not in good repair as discussed in Feature 1 – Chalk grassland issues on p4 above.

Objectives

- A reporting structure will be required
 - to enable the Licensee to monitor the progress of the Project against its objectives and report to stakeholders such as JVL and village residents
 - to ensure that the Licensee is managing the project in compliance with all obligations of the License
 - to attract funding towards the management of the site under appropriate biodiversity-based schemes

Management list

- 5.1. The Licensee will have regular communication with JVL regarding work undertaken, work up coming and decisions that need to be made on a basis to be agreed

- 5.2. The Licensee is responsible for allocating and spending available funds provided in line with the project objectives.
- 5.3. Regular checks carried out along boundaries and paths for fallen trees, broken fencing/gates.
- 5.4. Monitor health of mature trees – carry out a Tree Perimeter.
- 5.5. In order to secure funding, the Licensee will need to present grant applications with input from its advisers (CR, BBOWT, Chilterns AONB). JVL as landowner will be required to support the application and may have to commit to (for example):
 - a. Continued ownership of MFF (or agreement to ensure that any future owner abides by the proposed management scheme)
 - b. Continued management of the fields in accordance with the grant conditions for a specified period of time.
- 5.6. Liaise with JVL concerning access to water as needed. JVL will likely have to be the contracting party for the supply.

6– Funding Sources

- Indicative commitments have been received from local individuals toward the project totalling £7,000 over 3 years (£3,000 in the first year and £2,000 in each of the two subsequent years).
- The Big Camp organisation has verbally promised an immediate grant of £500.
- Other organisations that have indicated they would be prepared consider grant applications include JET, Rough Around the Edges (BBOWT) and Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL through Chiltern Conservation Board).
- Other organisations that we understand have capacity to make grants to similar projects are the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the National Lottery Community Fund, Heart of Bucks, Rothschild Foundation, Chalk Cherries and Chairs (through CCB), Woodland and Tree Council, Community Impact Bucks, Clare Foundation, Local Community Boards (through Buckinghamshire Council)
- Local fundraising
- All the above are dependent on JVL’s commitment to the Management Plan for the long-term

7– Project Risks

As mentioned above, there will be some issues and challenges that may need to be addressed as the project progresses. The prime risks identified include:

- 7.1. **Grants for the required work are not available from identified funding sources.** There are numerous funding sources currently available and given the continued focus on the environment and community benefits of this type of project we believe that this pool of funding will continue to expand. Subject to the activity mentioned in 1.1(c) above, the major part of likely expenditure is on the long-term hedge laying program and the creation of

scalloped edges around the fields. We have been led to believe that FiPL grants should be available (albeit at capped rates) for this.

JVL may need to commit to the Management Plan for the longer term in order to secure grants/ donations.

If we fail to secure additional funding, then the hedge laying program can be delayed, and the scalloped edges will be created naturally through outgrowth from the existing hedgerows without the need for further planting.

7.2. Lack of Jordans Volunteers to form work parties.

Jordans has a history of working together as a community to deliver projects, and comments we've received after the various information events (Green Village event in March, pop up on the Green in May, village meeting in July) indicate that there are sufficient people to deliver the project as planned. Planning, publicity, and inclusivity will be key to success, and we will actively engage with groups in Jordans and Seer Green to take part in activities so providing work parties (see 4 above). If, however, we are unable to gather a sufficiently large group of people from Jordans to realise our plans, we will be reliant on well established local conservation volunteer groups linked to our adviser organisations (CR and BBOWT).

7.3. No one is prepared to mow and remove hay crop.

We envisage that for as long as the fertility of the fields remain high, there will be a decent hay crop that would be attractive to farmers and equine establishments; as the plant diversity of the fields improves, this will become more attractive as a balanced diet is good for animals too. If we fail to source a farmer to cut and remove the hay, we will have to source a contractor to take the initial cut.

In years to come when the hay yield becomes lower (as fertility decreases) we can use livestock to manage the height of grass on the fields and may not need mechanical cutting and collection. This will be part of future grazing arrangements.

7.4. Risk of General Failure.

If the project fails as a result of The Licensee losing interest or terminating the Licence before it naturally expires, JVL would always have the ability to revert to the existing management regime. In character, this risk is not much different from the risk that exists currently in the event that the current farmer was to decide he did not want to graze the fields.

7.5 Breach of Covenants

If the project fails to use the field for either arable or grazing, then there is a risk of breach of covenant. To mitigate this risk, the management of this grassland should aim to produce at least one annual crop if no grazing has taken place, and grazing should take place at least once a year if no arable crop has been produced. It should be noted that the land may only be grazed by horses, cattle, or sheep.

7.6 Nuisance

If educational or working party visits prove to be a nuisance for neighbouring residents, then JVL may mitigate this risk by restricting access to the fields as envisaged in sections 4.3 and 4.4.

Sample Action Plan Years 1-3

Code	Prescription	When	Est. Costs	Comments
1.1	Liaise with local farmers re grass cutting – grazing and mechanical	Winter 2022/ Spring 2023	£nil	In principle agreement for aftermath grazing already reached. Hay/ grass will be desirable for winter feed. Quality of hay will improve over time as diversity improves but the calorific content may fall.
4.2d	Create page on existing Jordans/JVL website	Spring 2023	£nil	Licensee
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 1	Spring 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups
1.3	Ragwort and undesirable plants monitoring	Spring 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers
5.5	Grant application to FiPL for scalloped edge planting and possible accelerated grassland regeneration	Spring 2023	£nil	Licensee to write on behalf of JVL (landowners) with Chiltern rangers support
3.1-3.4	Develop hedgerow management plan with schedules and costs	Spring 2023	£nil	Create management plan with advice from Chiltern Rangers

5.5	Seek day grants for hedge maintenance: BBOWT, Chilterns AOB	Spring 2023	£nil	Licensee to write on behalf of JVL (landowners) with Chiltern rangers support
5.5	Apply for grant for information boards: Community Board	Spring 2023	£nil	Licensee with advice from Chiltern Rangers
4.2a	Erect information board	Summer 2023	£1,500	Creation and installation costs covered by grant (likely Community Board/ JET) Subject to application to and prior approval from JVL (no cost)
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 1	Summer 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups
1.3	Ragwort and undesirable plants monitoring	Summer 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+volunteers
1.1	Grass cutting	Late Summer /Autumn 2023	£nil	Local farmer, takes away hay and/ or aftermath grazing
2.1	Initial scalloped edge planting	Autumn 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	FiPL grant Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 1	Autumn 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups

1.3	Ragwort and undesirable plants monitoring	Autumn 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers if any removal is necessary
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 1	Winter 2023	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups
3.1-3.4	Year 1 hedge management activities (laying/ trimming)	Winter 2023	£840 (to be offset by FiPL/ Community Board/ other grants)	CR group with local volunteers
2.1	Scalloped edge management	Spring 2024	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	FiPL grant Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group
1.1	Grass cutting	Late Summer/ Autumn 2024	£nil	Local farmer, takes away cuttings/ cow grazing
2.1	Scalloped edge planting	Autumn/ Winter 2024	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	FiPL grant Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group
3.1-3.4	Year 2 hedge management program	Winter 2024	£1,340 (to be offset by FiPL/ Community Board/ other grants)	Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group External contractor for trimming
2.1	Scalloped edge management	Spring 2025	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	FiPL grant

				Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 3	Spring 2025	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 3	Summer 2025	£20 (teas & coffees)	Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups
1.1	Grass cutting	Late Summer /Autumn 2025	£nil	Local farmer, takes away cuttings/ cow grazing
2.1	Scalloped edge planting	Autumn/ Winter 2025	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	FiPL grant Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group
1.2/2.3/3.4	Ecological baseline survey Year 3	Autumn 2025	£20 (covers refreshment costs)	+Volunteers with support from local wildlife monitoring groups
3.1-3.4	Year 3 hedge management program	Winter 2025	£1,340 (to be offset by FiPL/ Community Board/ other grants)	Chiltern Rangers led volunteer group External contractor for trimming

Indicative Budget

Three year income and expenditure summary

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Surplus brought fwd	-	1,860	1,720
Income			
Already committed			
Local Commitments	3,000	2,000	2,000
Big Camp Grant	500		
Potential Grants (not committed)			
Jet Grant (Information Boards)	500		
Community Board Grant (Information Boards)	1,000		
Local Fundraising	-	-	-
Other unidentified grants	-	-	-
Total Income	5,000	2,000	2,000
Expenditure			
Grassland			
Mowing/ collection of hay	-	-	-
Scalloped Edges			
Whip planting program	300	300	300
Hedgerows			
Annual trimming cost		500	500
Hedge laying program	840	840	840
General Expenditure			
Information Boards	1,500		
Work parties expenses/ Refreshments	200	200	200
Water expense	200	200	200
Miscellaneous expenses	100	100	100
Total Expenditure	3,140	2,140	2,140
Surplus/ -Deficit	1,860 -	140 -	140
Surplus carried forward	1,860	1,720	1,580

Basis of preparation

1. Income assumptions are limited to funds already indicatively raised, subject JVL's longer term commitment to the Management Plan. It is fully expected that we will apply to numerous other entities for funding (eg FiPL for hedge laying/ scalloped edge planting). The potential accelerated grassland regeneration (see 1.1 (c) is not included in the above budget.
2. Expenditure is included to the extent that it covers the costs associated with the material elements of the project (hedgerow maintenance program and scalloped edges). To the extent that we are successful in fundraising the hedge laying program could be accelerated. Where we have been advised that project elements can be achieved at no or limited cost (primarily mowing and collection of hay), no expenditure has been incorporated.
3. Scalloped edges - estimated costs of the planting program for the scalloped edges are included – we would anticipate recovering this through fund raising
4. Hedge trimming – no trimming cost in first year (as per JVL advice received) with £500 per annum allowance thereafter on three-year cycle.

Hedge laying cycle - £840 per annum to cover one paid day of Chiltern Ranger and volunteer group. This can be expanded dependent on fund raising through FiPL, Community Boards etc.