

14 April 2021

Dear Wildflower Ringmer

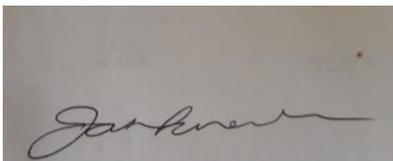
Subject: Wildflower verges and other green spaces

Thank you so much for inviting me to Ringmer and showing me around. It was an absolute pleasure to hear you talk so enthusiastically about your ideas. I am really impressed by the amount of work and thought that you have put into your plans so far, the potential you have in Ringmer for increasing biodiversity is so exciting.

Making changes like this can make such a big difference to our native flora and fauna, a few small adjustments can make a huge difference. Wildflower verges have the capacity to provide an important habitat corridor for many species; small mammals, pollinators and our native plants can all thrive in these environments. These corridors can link up fragmented habitat and enable greater mobility for species to move around the landscape. We have lost 97% of our meadows since the Second World War and an astonishing insect species decline since the 1970s, so everything we do to reverse that trend is so vital.

I would like to offer you my full support to enable you to achieve these wildflower areas and improve biodiversity within Ringmer, gardens, verges, village greens and churchyards. Simply not cutting the grass in some areas will make a difference – that is an easy thing to do, or NOT do. Other areas can be enhanced with native flora and I am happy to contribute my time and help with funding the plants and seed. I am really excited to be involved and I know your plans will be greatly appreciated by the wildlife. I am heartened by the number of villages in and around the National Park that are doing this and for you to join the growing number of parishes wanting to make a difference is fantastic. Please keep in touch and let me know when you need my help with funding and or planting

Yours



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