



## Exminster Nature Recovery Project Fourth Progress Report – April 2023



This project was developed under the umbrella of Exminster Parish Council's Environment Working Party and initially presented to the Council in April 2022. This is the latest summary of progress and activity. My thanks go to all those who have helped support and deliver aspects of the plan over the last year.

More background and previous progress notes are hosted on the Parish Council's Biodiversity page found here;

[EPC-Biodiversity](#)

### Theme 1 – Building on existing voluntary action.

The Exminster Greenspaces team have had a season. Highlights include;

- Tree planting, including horse chestnut in Crockwells Meadow and plugging gaps in hedgebank at Crockwells Meadow.
- Bulb planting, including daffodils at several locations around Deepway and Spurfield, St Martins Churchyard



- Addition of snowdrops in orchard and St Martins.
- On going management of community tree nursery at Spurfield allotments and village orchard..
- Took delivery of Tawny owl box and 12 small bird nesting boxes for installation this Spring. Boxes built by the NHS Trust facility at New Leaf, using donated funds.. Site list prepared and boxes to be fitted in coming weeks.



**ACT Wildlife Warden Scheme** – The Exminster Greenspaces Team are now members of the ACT Teignbridge Wildlife Warden network. We joined a visit early this year to provide training and networking opportunities. In January we visited Oxen Park Farm near Christow to network and learn.



## Theme 2 – Community Engagement.

After last years promotion of the **Devon Wildlife Trust's wildlife gardening award scheme**, the village have attracted 45 wildlife garden awards and approximate positions of many captured. These are spread across a wide range of locations through the village. Further promotion will follow this year.

**EXMINSTER GREEN SPACES** **Devon Wildlife Trust**

### Help us welcome wildlife to Exminster!

Is your garden a haven for wildlife? You could qualify for an award plaque to proudly display in your outdoor space!

For wildlife gardening tips and ideas, or to find out more about the award, use the QR code above or visit [devonwildlifetrust.org](http://devonwildlifetrust.org) and search for 'Wildlife Garden Award'.

45 Exminster gardens received an award in 2022!

## Exminster loves Nature

An evening of illustrated talks, feedback and discussion on our collective efforts to support nature and wildlife in and around our community.

**24th May 2023**  
7.30pm  
**Victory Hall**

Learn more about...

- \* Our Nature Recovery Project
- \* Wildlife Gardening
- \* RSPB Exminster Marshes
- \* Ridgetop Country Park

**LEARN** what we are doing  
**CELEBRATE** wildlife around us  
Find out what can do **TOGETHER**  
**SUPPORT** and **SHARE** ideas

**EXMINSTER GREEN SPACES** **Devon Wildlife Trust** **RSPB** **Teignbridge.gov.uk**

**Exminster Loves Nature Event – planned for 24 May.** We are expecting the RSPB, DWT and Ridgetop Park Ranger to give illustrated talks on our collective efforts to support wildlife in and around the community.

The Greenspaces team have continued with regular **Facebook (over 500 followers) and Scene magazine** posts on project and nature themes. EWG articles in Scene have included a report on Exminster participation in the **RSPB Big Garden Bird Count**.

January saw a very successful **Wassail** take place, attracting over 100 people and a chance to showcase the village orchard.



### Theme 3 – Partnership Working

Work on developing approaches for wildlife management in **St Martin's** churchyard. We've done some bulb planting, including snowdrops, have sites for 2 nest boxes to be installed and liaised with the Teignbridge greenspaces team on areas to be left uncut over the summer months.



The team at **New Leaf** built our collection of nest boxes as mentioned above. We also have a joint project underway to develop a range of wildflower plug plants for introducing at various sites later this year.

Agreement reached with **Teign Housing** to position a new tree on land they manage near the school.

We're keeping in touch with both **Exminster Community Primary School** and **New School** on wildlife related education and management of school grounds.

We are looking forward to the **RSPB, DWT** and **Teignbridge Greenspaces** team joining us for the Exminster Loves Nature event in May.

**Jeremy Pyne**

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**Exminster Environment Working Group and Greenspaces Volunteer team.**

**April 2023**