

STOWMARKET ENVIRONMENT NEWSLETTER



Local New Initiative



Let It Grow

Let it Grow is a therapeutic gardening course held at Oaks Meadow in Little Finborough, just outside Stowmarket. Previously based at Langham Walled Garden, Richard and his team of trained volunteers are on a mission to create an inclusive environment that promotes wellbeing and balance through learning, growing, and giving.

This fantastic scheme is open to everyone, with both morning and afternoon sessions available. Transport can also be arranged for those who may find travelling difficult, helping to ensure that the opportunity is accessible to all.

Looking ahead, the team hopes to expand their offering by running additional workshops on topics such as Field to Fork, composting, and ecology tours, giving participants even more opportunities to develop practical skills and deepen their connection with the natural world.

There are also volunteering opportunities available, allowing individuals to gain valuable knowledge, build confidence, and develop work experience in a supportive setting.

Are you interested in spending time outdoors, learning new skills, and connecting with nature and others in your community? If so, Let it Grow could be the perfect opportunity to get involved.



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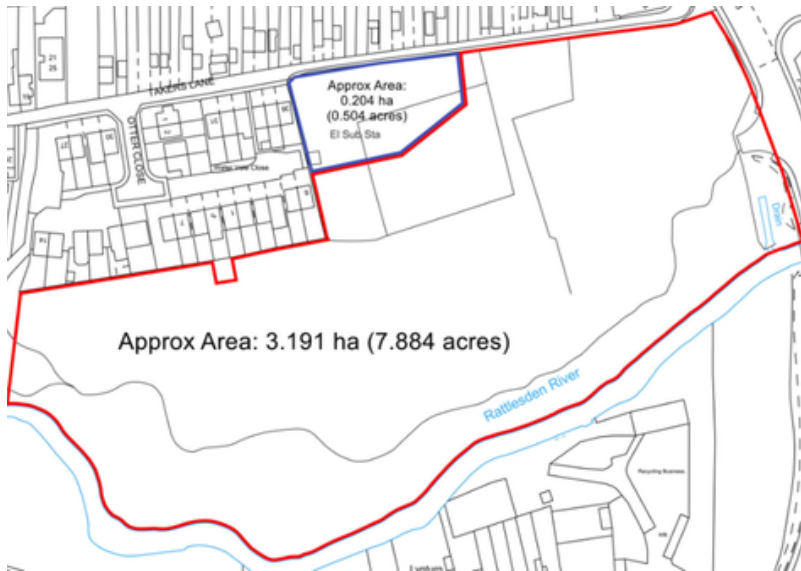
Richard - 07934 611004

"Going to the garden is excellent, it brings people together, working together and socially interacting, sharing ideas and knowledge, and learning new ways of doing things, and discussing local memories. Enjoyable times, I look forward to attending each week!"

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Taker's Lane – Nature Recovery Site



Approximately three months ago, Mid Suffolk District Council purchased land adjacent to Pikes Meadow with the aim of protecting and enhancing this valuable green space. The long-term aspiration is for the site to become a Local Nature Reserve, helping to safeguard the area for both wildlife and the local community.

Ecological surveys are currently being carried out to better understand the habitats and species present, and to identify the most appropriate management practices for the site.

The council is also exploring how the land could contribute to natural flood management, while increasing opportunities for people to engage with and enjoy the natural environment.

As part of this process, Mid Suffolk District Council would like to assess the safety and accessibility of the area. Potential improvements being considered include re-routing and widening sections of the footpath, as well as pollarding some of the fast-growing willow trees to ensure they remain healthy and manageable.

The project represents an exciting opportunity to balance conservation, public access, and climate resilience, creating a space that benefits both people and nature for years to come.

What's There?

- Wet Woodland
- Other Woodland
- Scrub
- Grassland
- Pond
- River
- Planted Trees
- Dangerous Trees
- Asbestos
- Piles of Waste
- inaccessible Areas



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Environment Forum Partner Updates

Mid Suffolk District Council

Community Nature Recovery Grant and Catchment and Landscape Nature Recovery Grant can be found here: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/community-funding>. Mid Suffolk District Council are keen for organisations to apply and will support and work with you to create a strong successful application! Please contact richard.parmee@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk for more information.

Stowmarket Town Council

Stowmarket Town Awards 2026 nominations are now open! Nominate your 'Environment Champion of the Year' Today! Awarded to a person or group who has made a positive impact on the town's environment or contributed to the protection, improvement, or celebration of the town's natural or historic heritage. <https://stowmarkettowncouncil.gov.uk/nominations-2026/>

Stowmarket Eco Future Group

Due to the new recycling system starting in June, there is less of a need for the Recycling stall as more items can be recycled at home. From September The Recycling Stall will only be available at the Repair Cafe once a month.

Volunteers of Stowmarket (VoS)

32 people are now involved in the monthly litter pick. This means there can be up to 6 groups out tackling multiple areas. VoS are working closely with the Town Rangers, and following the areas they cut back and clear, VoS follow up and litter pick these areas. This tactic seems to be working very well and is successful.

Rattlesden River Valley Network & Stow Stories

Stowmarket Stories, Tinkler's Quest and Softwood Books are collaborating on a proposal for a new online resource designed to encourage environmental engagement across communities. The project aims to boost inclusivity, inspire a greater appreciation of the natural world, and create a positive online space that celebrates place, people and nature. Funding will be sought to support the initiative over an initial three-year period.

Pickerel Project

The volunteers continue to tackle the Himalayan Balsam at their monthly clean up meets, most recently a bed was found in the river!

Suffolk Tree Wardens

Suffolk Tree Wardens have now taken responsibility for the trees on the Recreation Ground behind the Skate Park. Encouragingly, local young people have shown an interest in the project and are actively assisting with the care and maintenance of the trees, helping to foster a sense of stewardship for the natural environment.

Food Museum

Working with the Master Composters, new composting systems have been put into place including extra hot bins so all food on site can now be composted!