

# Chairs Report 2025-26 for Huntingfield Millennium Green

The Millennium Green Trustees continue to manage the green to encourage wildlife and maintain it in good condition for the enjoyment of our local community and visitors alike.

I wish to thank the trustees and other volunteers for their highly valued assistance in keeping this valued village asset available to all. Their aid includes fundraising, regular committee meetings, grass cutting and other site maintenance e.g. the play equipment.

Our brilliant 100 club will continue throughout the year many thanks to Sue Brewer who does such an excellent job organising this superb fundraiser.

New volunteers are always very welcome to join our team.

## Wildlife

Most of the fruit trees in our orchard are doing well we plan to remove/replace those that aren't thriving. The flowers in our wildflower meadow are always impressive, in particular this spring the Cowslips are in great abundance. The various flowers attract a wide variety of beneficial insects, butterflies and bees plus a multitude of moths. The moths continue to be surveyed monthly in the warm months for us by a county moth expert who reports that the green is one of the best sites that he visits regularly.

The hedges around the site are managed for wildlife and we have a good variety of birdlife that breeds in them, including several warbler species including Lesser Whitethroat and Blackcap.

We have recently laid a section of hedging to enhance its wildlife value, it's good to maintain this ancient form of management.

## Projects

The burying of the overhead cables has now been completed, the uninterrupted views across the local countryside are much improved. Thanks to the Wilderness Reserve for completing this work and paying all costs for the project. The orchard fencing has been removed as it had become too rotten for repair, again this has given the site a more open feel.

We have received funding from our parish council (via CIL funds) to replace some of the ageing picnic tables and benches for which we are very grateful

Other on site projects planned for this year include enlarging the upper car park and laying on power and a water supply to the green. These enhancements will prove beneficial when we hold future events on the green.

## Events

Our third annual Plant Sale is to be held on 17th May last year we raised £2,055, we are hoping to better that brilliant total in 2026.

A huge amount of unseen work goes on over the year between each plant fair. This involves propagating selected plants, potting up, and keeping them in good health. Particular thanks to Crozie and SallyJane for cultivating and tending the majority of the plant stock, to Dunstan for co-ordinating activities and to Lauren for designing / supplying all of the printed items and for managing the social media campaign. We also have a brilliant band of volunteers who help with many tasks on the day of the sale.

We are happy to welcome the second Hubfest music festival held in aid of the village Hub. It is due to be held on August 1st (1-9pm) and should be a hugely enjoyable event. We are always open to support other events should there be any interest, and indeed open to suggestions for improving the MG.

We plan to hold an Apple Pressing morning in the autumn ,as this activity was very popular with families last year.

Tony Howe