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### Spring news

Despite the dire restrictions we are finding ourself under life has to go on.

Most of us locally have not been affected by the horrendous flooding, though gardens and allotments are saturated – let's hope we avoid Covid-19.

Even though our contact with people is much curtailed the natural world continues. This is quite obvious out on the Flower Bank where the Primroses and other Spring flowers are flourishing.



Some Primroses & Cowslips have hybridised -

- tall multi-headed like Cowslips
- large Primrose-like flowers

### North Somerset Council

We remain hopeful that NSC will soon sort out the issues regarding Health & Safety so that our insurance cover is restored. The social-distancing would have put a stop to any work-parties anyway – there are none planned now until the end of summer.

### Committee

The first AGM was held in October. It was intended to arrange the 2020 one closer to the financial year end – that is now on hold! We are not having Committee meetings either but will continue to liaise and work remotely.

Our report to the Parish Council is attached.

### Fund-raising

Over the past few months we made several appeals so that we could buy replacement mowers. Obviously not all were successful but we are delighted to acknowledge support from:-

- The Owls of Pill
- Portishead Lions Club
- Pill and Easton-in-Gordano Community Forum
- Wessex Watermark

This is, of course, in addition to personal donations that just appear unasked!

Sadly our fund-raising walks have to be suspended too.

THANKS to all!

### "On the Verge of Success - The Importance for Wildlife of our Roadside Verges"

In February Giles and I made a trip to Ipswich for a conference organised by Suffolk Naturalists' Club. This attracted speakers and delegates from all over the country. Attached is a short report that we prepared for the Bristol Naturalists' Society, which you may like to read. We found it well worth the effort and instructive – in particular it reaffirmed that our management is pretty much what is needed.

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**Website** <http://flowerbank.org.uk/>

### **Please check this out**

We have now added a page with links to conservation organisations – they give lots of hints on what you can do to improve things for all sorts of wildlife – whether on the Flower Bank, in your garden or locally.

This newsletter appears there as well.

### Local Environmental Action

These highly motivated local groups are much involved in getting out and doing things to improve the environment – have a look to see what they are doing.

- **Sustainable Pill and District** <https://sustainablepill.weebly.com/>
- **Pill and Easton-in-Gordano Parish Council's carbon capture and biodiversity working group** (food, energy, transport, public engagement or carbon capture & biodiversity) [ClimateActionPill@gmail.com](mailto:ClimateActionPill@gmail.com) (available in the near future)

They were involved with NSC 'Rewilding' planting trees on Watchhouse Hill – but they do a huge amount more and are worth supporting.

Keep Safe  
Bob