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## Parish Plans Biodiversity Project

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# Welcombe

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Report by the

Devon Biodiversity Records Centre

in partnership with

Devon County Council

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*Devon  
Biodiversity  
Records  
Centre*

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# **Welcombe - Parish Plan Biodiversity Project**

## **Introduction**

The parish is unusual in being bounded on its south and west sides by a Site of Special Scientific Interest, the Marsland to Clovelly Coast 'SSSI' which has ensured that its geological, geomorphological and biological interest has been well studied in that area. Some of the highlights of this diverse SSSI are mentioned in this report.

But even without designations, there is much plant interest on verges or in the graveyard and along the many hedges that bound the relatively small fields that are a feature of the Parish. The varied habitats range from Ancient Woodland, coastal heath and scrub, Culm grassland, neutral grassland, ponds and streams to rocky seashore.

This predominately agricultural landscape has undergone many changes in the last few years and no doubt there will be more to come. Whilst initially these changes have led to more intensive use of the land whether arable or pasture, the emphasis in recent years has been, through subsidies, to encourage a less intensive approach or even to favour alternative uses for what was agricultural land. The Welcome Millennium Wood, managed by the Woodland Trust is an example of this change of direction and is indicative of the opportunities that are arising.

## Designated Sites

### Marsland to Clovelly Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest

A **Site of Special Scientific Interest** (SSSI) is a statutory designation notified by English Nature because of the plant, animal or geological features contained.

Marsland to Clovelly Coast has been identified as a SSSI because of its geological, geomorphological and biological interest. The clifftops and valleys support a wide range of habitats including ancient woodland, species-rich coastal grassland and coastal heathland and scrub. The cliffs at Welcombe mouth have been identified as a Geological Review site because of their exposures through Upper Carboniferous rocks belonging to the Crackington and Bude formations. The rocks are affected by large-scale folds, which may be vertical or horizontal, and are formed by sandstone beds alternating with shale.

Around Welcombe mouth there are clifftop grassland communities supporting species such as thrift, red fescue, wild carrot, buckshorn plantain, wild madder, wild thyme and kidney vetch. Kidney vetch is also found in a number of colour forms here. As well as its normal yellow form, there is also a crimson variety, but it can also be white, cream and purple.

On the steep slopes the grassland gives way to heathland, which is characterised by heather, Western gorse, common milkwort, heath bedstraw, tormentil, sheep's sorrel and sweet vernal-grass. This in turn gives way to scrub and bracken. The main scrub species are wild privet and blackthorn.

Sea cliff and slope are listed on the **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan** as a priority habitat and on the **National Biodiversity Action Plan**. Sea cliffs and slopes comprise a mosaic of habitats and geological exposures, and support several communities such as coastal grasslands, coastal heathland, woodland, wetland and scrub.

## **Welcombe and Marsland Devon Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve**

Grid Ref: SS 230173

**Welcombe and Marsland** is a large (206 hectare) reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest on the northern border of Devon and Cornwall. The entire reserve was purchased in small sections by Mr Christopher Cadbury in the 1960's. The site was gifted to the Royal Society for Nature Conservation who managed the site until 1997 when it was taken on by the Devon Wildlife Trust, with assistance from the Cornwall Wildlife Trust. The ownership of the site has now been transferred (1<sup>st</sup> July 2004) to Devon Wildlife Trust.

Occupying two adjacent valleys and extending several kilometres inland from the coastline this is a very diverse nature reserve. It contains wooded steep sided valleys, along with maritime heath and grassland meadows, bracken-covered slopes as well as small streams and ponds.

### **Management**

The woodland and grassland areas are under an active management regime which comprises mainly coppicing, grazing, traditional haymaking and the cutting of rides and glades. Monitoring work is on going throughout the seasons and includes breeding bird, butterfly and dragonfly surveys.

### **Walks**

The circular trail from Gooseham Mill will take about one and half hours to complete. The walk to the coast will add an hour. The trail can be muddy and slippery, it is not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs. The coastal path links Welcombe Mouth with Marsland Mouth but areas outside the public footpaths and trails require a permit.

## **Vegetation**

The reserve itself is predominantly steep-sided oak woodland with a mix of ash, holly, rowan, beech, hazel and sycamore. The wet flushes of the valley bottom contain alder and willow. Along the coastline the habitat changes to heathland and maritime grasslands. Among the three hundred or more species of flowering plants there are several of rare species to look out for such as southern marsh orchid, wavy-leaved St. John's wort, marsh violet, Portland spurge and bastard balm.

Also hay-scented buckler fern is an unusual one amongst the ten ferns found there.

## **Fauna**

The reserve is home to a wide variety of animals, including the elusive and nocturnal dormouse. Evidence of otters can also be found along the streams and pond areas. Several bat species are present including a colony of lesser horseshoe bats.

The sunny slopes are butterfly heaven and this site now has records of 34 species. It is also home to the largest population in Devon of the rare pearl-bordered fritillary.

Over 400 species of moths have been recorded including scarce blackneck, double line, Barrett's marbled coronet and Devonshire wainscot.

Seventeen species of dragonflies and damselflies can be seen on the site usually around their breeding ponds and streams.

Bird life includes pied and spotted flycatcher, dipper and wheatear as well as buzzards, green woodpecker and many woodland species as well as coastal birds such as gannets (mainly in October) and guillemots.

Thirteen species of ant have been noted on the reserve.

Reptiles and amphibians are well represented with good numbers of grass snake and adder, slow worm, frog, toad, palmate newt and common lizard.

## **Hennaford Culm grassland County Wildlife Site**

Hennaford is a small area of Culm grassland and scrub situated to the east of Welcombe village and is under private ownership. The site supports several uncommon species such as wavy St. John's-wort and the dormouse. Culm Grassland is the local name given to species-rich marshy habitats found on the Culm measures of north-western and central Devon and north-east Cornwall, also known as Rhôs Pasture, and referred to in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan as Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pastures (*Molinia-Juncus*). Culm Grassland is a variable habitat whose main plant communities are classified by the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) as follows:

- M16 *Erica tetralix-Sphagnum compactum* wet heath
- M23 *Juncus effusus/acutiflorus-Galium palustre* rush pasture
- M24 *Molinia caerulea-Cirsium dissectum* fen meadow
- M25 *Molinia caerulea-Potentilla erecta* mire
- M27 *Filipendula ulmaria-Angelica sylvestris* mire

Culm grassland is listed on the **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan** as a priority habitat and on the **National Biodiversity Action Plan**. Culm grassland is characterised by purple moor-grass, as well as sharp-flowered rush, and various flowering species such as devil's-bit scabious, meadow thistle, heath spotted orchid, water mint and round-leaved sundew. Culm grassland may support the rare marsh fritillary butterfly and narrow-bordered bee hawkmoth, as well as the barn owl and curlew.

County Wildlife Sites (CWS) are sites of county importance for wildlife, selected on the basis of the habitat or the known presence of particular species. It is not a statutory designation like SSSIs, and so does not have the same legal status. However, County Wildlife Sites are usually included in Local Plans as sites of substantive nature conservation interest and are covered by Planning Policy. CWS recognition does not demand any particular actions on the part of the Landowner and does not give the public rights of access. However, it may increase eligibility for land management grants.

## **Other Habitats**

### **Species-rich hedges**

Hedgerows tend to be taken for granted as they always seem to be there, providing such a constant in a familiar landscape. However, they do require regular attention to keep them in good condition. That so many are still in good condition is a testament to the skill and hard work of generations of Farmers. But there are changes even in the oldest hedgelines as the way the majority are managed has altered with less farm labour available and more reliance on mechanical cutting. Even the mechanical cutting has changed as reciprocating cutters that could cut shrub stems cleanly have given way to tractor-mounted flails which can tackle slightly older growth but at the expense of every stem being shattered, leaving them much more susceptible to infection. As individual hedge plants die, they leave gaps which render the hedge less effective and which would in the past have been filled when the hedge was next laid.

With the advent of mechanical hedge-trimming has come another change - that it now becomes possible to trim all the hedges on a farm in one year. It is this that perhaps has the most impact on the vertebrate wildlife as the fruiting and seeding species are very much less productive and there is a different and less varied structure. Shrubs that do produce a good berry crop may be cut in the early autumn before the birds, particularly the migrants, can gain any advantage. A couple of generations ago, many hedges on a farm might have been cut only once in five or even seven years, allowing them to be much more productive in the meantime.

Recognising these changes does allow choices in the way hedges are managed in the future with perhaps only one or two of the three 'faces': the top and the two sides being cut in any one year. This wouldn't stop road or drive side hedges being cut from both the safety and visual aspects but for the majority of hedges it would have two major benefits, it would take less time and hence cost and it would benefit wildlife!

Once it was realised nationally that many thousands of kilometres of hedgerow were being lost annually and that something ought to be done about it, the Hedgerow regulations (made under Section 97 of the Environment Act 1995) were introduced in England and Wales in 1997 to protect them. The Regulations are intended to prevent the removal of most countryside hedgerows without first submitting a hedgerow removal notice to the local planning authority. The local planning authorities are only able to require the retention of 'important' hedgerows. The Regulations then set out criteria to be used by the local authority in determining which hedgerows are important. (Bickmore, 2002)

In such a clearly agricultural landscape, the hedgerows and hedgebanks represent continuity as features in the landscape and provide a significant wildlife resource at a time when the fields themselves are being more intensively used. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK Steering Group, 1995) lists ancient and or species-rich hedgerows as one of its priority habitats.

Various definitions of species-rich hedges have been used in different parts of the country but it would not be unreasonable to treat a hedge that has five or more woody species in a 30 metre length as a 'species-rich' one.

Hedgerows are often an essential corridor for the movement of wildlife and may support many animals and plants. The hedgerows between Tredown Cross and Upcott cross are species-rich with eight woody species recorded in a 30 metre length. These include eared willow, hazel, pedunculate oak, hawthorn, blackthorn, wild privet, ash, and holly. The hedge also has a rich bank flora with greater bird's-foot trefoil, foxglove, common vetch, greater stitchwort, betony, herb Robert, wild strawberry and wood sage. Species rich hedges are listed on the Devon Biodiversity Action plan as a habitat of conservation concern in Devon. Most of the hedges along the lanes of Welcombe could be classified as species-rich, with an average of six woody species in a 30 metre length.

## **Public Open Space**

There are several areas of open space in Welcombe. These include **Welcombe Millennium Wood** managed by the Woodland Trust, which is next to the village hall. This is a 'Wood on your doorstep', and is an open access area with a permissive path running through the centre of it. The woodland is recently planted and is mainly cherry, ash, oak and alder. The grassland is semi-improved and so relatively species-poor with species present such as common mouse-ear, black medick, rough meadow-grass, Yorkshire fog, creeping buttercup and broad-leaved dock.

The beach and car park area at Welcombe Mouth provide extensive views out to sea and on a clear day you may be lucky enough to catch a glimpse of dolphin or harbour porpoise or perhaps even a basking shark.

There is ample opportunity for walking as Welcombe Mouth is joined by a number of footpaths including the South West coast path, which can be followed to Hartland, or a smaller circular walk along the cliffs and coastal heath and back down to the beach. There are also footpaths that take you into the Devon Wildlife Trust Welcombe and Marsland reserve. The main track to the beach has species-rich hedges with wild privet, blackthorn, hawthorn and wayfaring tree present. There is also a rich bank flora with dog's mercury, wild madder, hart's-tongue fern, black bryony, meadow vetchling, stinking iris and hemp-agrimony. The sunny and sheltered conditions along this track make it suitable for species such as adder and common lizard.

There is a network of public footpaths, bridleways and other publicly accessible routes throughout the parish which link the two main valleys and enable walks of varying length and complexity to be undertaken.

## **The Churchyard**

A small area of moderately species-rich grassland is found in the churchyard. Species recorded here include germander speedwell, ribwort plantain, scarlet pimpernel, ox-eye daisy, cut-leaved crane's-bill and common vetch.

## **Species-rich Grassland**

There are several wide verges along the lanes around Welcombe, which support areas of species-rich neutral grassland. These verges are of great value as much of the grassland around the parish has been agriculturally improved and is cut for silage. These remaining species-rich areas represent oases of undisturbed habitat and are likely to support many insect species such as butterflies, spiders and grasshoppers.

Species recorded here include yarrow, betony, creeping cinquefoil, sweet vernal-grass, meadow vetchling, common bird's-foot trefoil, common knapweed, field wood-rush and common sorrel.

## **Species:**

A report from the DBRC database showing what legally protected, locally notable or noteworthy (eg Japanese Knotweed) species are known to have been present in and around Welcombe has been prepared and is presented separately (Appendix 1).

## **Birds:**

Several species of birds were recorded during the survey including skylark, greenfinch, stonechat, carrion crow, great spotted woodpecker, chaffinch, swallow, chiffchaff and magpie.

The SSSI supports over 70 species of breeding birds including peregrine falcon, kestrel, raven and fulmar. Various species of gulls breed on the cliffs as well as rock pipits.

## **Plants:**

The variety of habitats present within Welcombe parish support a huge number of plants. The areas of coastal grassland support the nationally scarce rock sea-lavender and Portland spurge. The nationally scarce wavy St. John's-wort and bastard balm have also been recorded in the area. Ivy broomrape and Western clover, also nationally scarce have been recorded from Welcombe Mouth.

## **Mammals:**

Otters have been recorded from Gooseham Mill, Cranham Mill and Welcombe Mouth. The otter is listed on the Devon Biodiversity Action plan as a species of conservation concern in Devon.

Dormice are present in Marsland Mouth woods and have been recorded near Hennaford Farm. The dormouse is also listed on the Devon Biodiversity Action plan as a species of conservation concern in Devon.

Harbour porpoises have been recorded off the coast close to Welcombe and on a calm day there would be a good chance of spotting other cetaceans if a reasonable amount of time was spent scanning the sea view with binoculars or a telescope.

## **Invertebrates:**

Welcombe and Marsland is a very important sites for a number of scarce butterflies. These include the rare pearl-bordered fritillary, high brown fritillary and marsh fritillary, and the declining purple hairstreak, dark-green fritillary and dingy skipper.

## **Reptiles and Amphibians:**

Little information is held on reptiles and amphibians in Welcombe. Common frogs and toads can be found in some of the wetland areas and Culm grassland.

It is believed that the heathland slopes around Welcombe Mouth are of importance for reptiles such as adders and common lizards.

## **The Devon Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).**

The Devon Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) describes the key actions needed to look after 37 of Devon's most important habitats and species. It does not stand alone, but is part of a much wider process aimed at conserving our biodiversity.

The Devon BAP is a direct descendent of a process started at the famous 'Earth Summit' held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. At this summit, world leaders pledged to halt and reverse the loss of the planet's biodiversity. For its part, the UK government produced a series of Action Plans for a great many threatened habitats and species. These national plans have been joined by a series of regional Action Plans aimed at providing a more local perspective.

The Devon BAP builds on this endeavour, identifying local priorities and providing targets and plans of action for the County.

All of this work has one aim: to encourage practical action on the ground. Its success depends upon us all.

### **Biodiversity links:**

- The Devon BAP can be viewed at [www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity). This site also contains links to other nature conservation issues relevant to Devon, such as information on hedges. If you do not have access to the internet and require paper copies of relevant sections of the Devon BAP please contact Devon County Council's Biodiversity Officer on 01392 382804.
- Details of biodiversity planning in the South West region can be viewed at [www.swbiodiversity.org.uk](http://www.swbiodiversity.org.uk).
- National Action Plans can be viewed at [www.ukbap.org.uk](http://www.ukbap.org.uk). This site also contains useful background information on UK biodiversity action planning.

## Links between the wildlife of Welcombe and the Devon BAP:

Welcombe wildlife feature	Brief description of feature	Link with the Devon Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)
Marsland to Clovelly Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest	An internationally important site supporting ancient woodland, species-rich coastal grassland and coastal heathland and scrub.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oak Woodland Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Sea Cliff &amp; Slope Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Alder/Willow Wet Woodland Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Rhôs Pasture Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Dormouse Species Action Plan</li> </ul>
Welcombe and Marsland Devon Wildlife Trust Nature Reserve	A nature reserve supporting wooded steep-sided valleys, maritime heath and grassland, bracken-covered slopes and streams and ponds. It is home to the largest Devon population of the rare pearl-bordered fritillary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oak Woodland Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Sea Cliff &amp; Slope Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Alder/Willow Wet Woodland Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Rivers, Streams, Floodplains &amp; Fluvial Processes Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Dormouse Species Action Plan</li> <li>• Otter Species Action Plan</li> <li>• Pearl-bordered Fritillary Species Action Plan</li> </ul>
Hennaford Culm Grassland County Wildlife Site	A site of County importance for its species-rich wet grassland. Known as Culm grassland, this is a characteristic but now rare feature of the north Devon landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rhôs Pasture Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Dormouse Species Action Plan</li> <li>• Marsh Fritillary Species Action Plan (<i>unknown if present at this site but there are records for Welcombe parish</i>)</li> </ul>
Species-rich Hedges	Important – often ancient – wildlife habitats that can also form an important network of corridors along which wildlife can move and disperse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species-rich Hedges Habitat Action Plan</li> <li>• Dormouse Species Action Plan</li> </ul>
Churchyard & wide road verges	These features support species-rich grassland which has been protected from agricultural improvement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flower-rich Meadows and Pastures Habitat Action Plan</li> </ul>

View the Devon Biodiversity Action Plan at [www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity](http://www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity).

## **Some Ideas for Local Action...**

This section of the report is provided by Devon County Council (contact: nature@devon.gov.uk).

A major step to knowing what you can do for your local wildlife and geology is to know what you have already got. This report will help you in this, but it is just a start. Ultimately, the protection and enhancement of the local natural environment requires the interest and enthusiasm of the local community.

There follow some initial ideas for local nature conservation action. Many of them will directly help to achieve the objectives of the habitat and species action plans contained in the **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan**.

It is by no means an exhaustive list. As a community, you may have many more ideas for action that you would like to take forward in the coming years.

### **1 Further survey:**

This report is just a beginning. Carrying out further survey within your area will help build a better picture of the wildlife present, and of the opportunities for enhancement. Gaining a better understanding of the resource is usually a key objective of the Devon BAP's habitat and species action plans.

Specific features to survey in Welcombe might include hedges and otter signs. The last two actions would directly contribute to the **Species-rich Hedges Action Plan** and the **Otter Action Plan**.

One example of survey work that might usefully be undertaken would be to produce a hedgerow appraisal for your local area. Comparing the current distribution of hedges against boundary lines shown on old maps will give a clue as to how this important resource has changed over recent years. It may also highlight opportunities for restoring hedges in your area. It might also be possible to assess the condition of hedges and this may, in turn, give some ideas about improving their future management to benefit wildlife.

Survey work could be undertaken as a community group or in liaison with conservation groups active in the area. For example, both the Woodland Trust and the Devon Wildlife Trust manage nature reserves around Welcombe.

Help to build up a picture of the state of Devon's environment by sending your records to the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre where they can be properly collated.

## **2 Influence the management of Public Open Space:**

Creating areas of more species-rich grassland will help to reduce the isolation of the remaining fragments of traditionally managed agricultural land, contributing to the **Flower-rich Meadows and Pastures Action Plan**. Churchyards have often received less intensive management than the surrounding land and can provide good opportunities for wildlife.

## **3 Build relationships with local landowners:**

Encourage the adoption of more wildlife-friendly land management. For example, hedges which are cut only every other year will provide an autumn and winter source of nuts and berries for birds and small mammals (and can save the landowner money in management costs). The improved management of hedgerows is a key objective of the **Species-rich Hedges Action Plan**. If the owner is willing, why not get involved with practical management, such as traditional hedge laying or pond restoration?

## **4 Adopt a road verge:**

Many verges can have a significant value for wildlife because they have escaped the intensive management of the surrounding farmland. Ensuring such verges are managed for their wildlife is a very positive step, again contributing to the **Flower-rich Meadows and Pastures Action Plan**.

There are, of course, obvious health and safety implications to roadside management. It is an action that would need to be undertaken in close liaison with the relevant highways authority (generally, this is the Highways Agency for motorways and trunk roads, and Devon County Council for all other roads).

## **5 Wildlife gardening:**

Green up your garden! Collectively the gardens of Welcombe represent a significant area that could be used to benefit wildlife. Large or small, you can turn your garden (or a part of it!) into a haven for wildlife. A very good source of information on wildlife gardening is the English Nature web site:

[www.english-nature.org.uk/Nature In The Garden](http://www.english-nature.org.uk/Nature_In_The_Garden)

English Nature is the Government's adviser on nature conservation. Its web site also contains links to a number of other very useful sources of information.

## **6 Join local conservation organisations:**

One example of a prominent local conservation organisation is the Devon Wildlife Trust. The Woodland Trust is also active in the area. Both of these trusts have a number of Local Groups which, amongst other things, get involved in practical management work.

## **7 Japanese Knotweed:**

Not something to cherish, but it can't be ignored! Unfortunately, Japanese Knotweed is present at several locations in Welcombe Parish. Introduced into Britain by the Victorians, Japanese Knotweed is a native of Japan, north China, Korea and Taiwan. It flourishes in Britain's mild and fertile environment and has no natural biological enemies here. Consequently, it is very invasive and can overrun large areas, replacing our native flora. It is a serious pest which can be so vigorous as to cause significant damage to buildings and roads. It is also a difficult plant to eradicate.

For these reasons Japanese Knotweed is listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as a plant that is not to be planted or otherwise introduced into the wild. In addition, all parts of the plant are considered as controlled waste under the Waste Regulations.

What can you do?

- Firstly, it is important to build up a picture of where Japanese Knotweed is present. This will give an idea of the scale of the problem and will help to prevent it being accidentally spread during any ditch clearance, highway work and so on. To help develop an understanding of the problem in Devon, records should also be sent to the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre<sup>1</sup>. Ideally, records should include when you first saw it and confirmation of when it was seen most recently; its precise location (notes or a sketch map are helpful, as is a grid reference if you have one); the kind of habitat it is in (e.g. next to running water, on a road verge), and a rough indication of how abundant it is.
- Secondly, be careful not to spread the plant further! This is all too easily done as it can regenerate from even the smallest fragment and is easy to spread unknowingly. It is important not to flail it or to try and dig it up. Often, it is best not to cut Japanese Knotweed at all, but if it is it should be very carefully disposed of on site when dead or removed as Controlled Waste. Any tools used should be properly cleaned.
- Finally, if Japanese Knotweed is on your land, the best way to prevent its spread is to control or eradicate it as soon as possible. Regular cutting can weaken and eventually kill the plant but it is a time-consuming job and proper disposal of the cut material can be a problem. Usually, the most effective method of control is to treat the plant with herbicide. This can take a number of years to be successful but

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<sup>1</sup> DBRC, Shirehampton House, 35-37 St David's Hill, Exeter, Devon, EX4 4DA. Phone: 01392 273244; Fax: 01392 433221; E-mail: [contactus@devonwt.cix.co.uk](mailto:contactus@devonwt.cix.co.uk)

if the plant is left untreated it will inevitably spread. A number of issues should be taken into account in deciding which herbicide to use, particularly the presence of water (where special care needs to be taken and the advice of the Environment Agency must be sought).

Fortunately, a great deal of advice (including an Environment Agency Code of Practice) is available on the Devon Knotweed Forum's web pages. You are recommended to view these at:

[www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity/japanese\\_knotweed](http://www.devon.gov.uk/biodiversity/japanese_knotweed).

## **Useful sources of further information:**

- Devon Wildlife Trust: [www.devonwildlifetrust.org](http://www.devonwildlifetrust.org)
- Devon Birdwatching and Preservation Society: Secretary tel: 01837 53360
- English Nature: [www.english-nature.org.uk](http://www.english-nature.org.uk)
- Plantlife: [www.plantlife.org.uk](http://www.plantlife.org.uk)
- RSPB: [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)
- The Woodland Trust: [www.woodland-trust.org.uk](http://www.woodland-trust.org.uk)
- The Living Churchyards & Cemeteries Project, Arthur Rank Centre, National Agricultural Society, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ Tel: 01203 696969 ext. 364/339.

## **Possible sources of funding:**

A number of potential sources of funding are available for local biodiversity projects. Each has its own rules, criteria and objectives but the following sites may be worth checking for suitability:

Awards for All: [www.awardsforall.org.uk](http://www.awardsforall.org.uk)

Countryside Trust Awards: 01242 521382 or [www.countryside-trust.org](http://www.countryside-trust.org)

Living Spaces: 0845 600 3190 or [www.living-spaces.org.uk](http://www.living-spaces.org.uk)

Local Heritage Initiative: 01226 719019 or [www.lhi.org.uk](http://www.lhi.org.uk)

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