

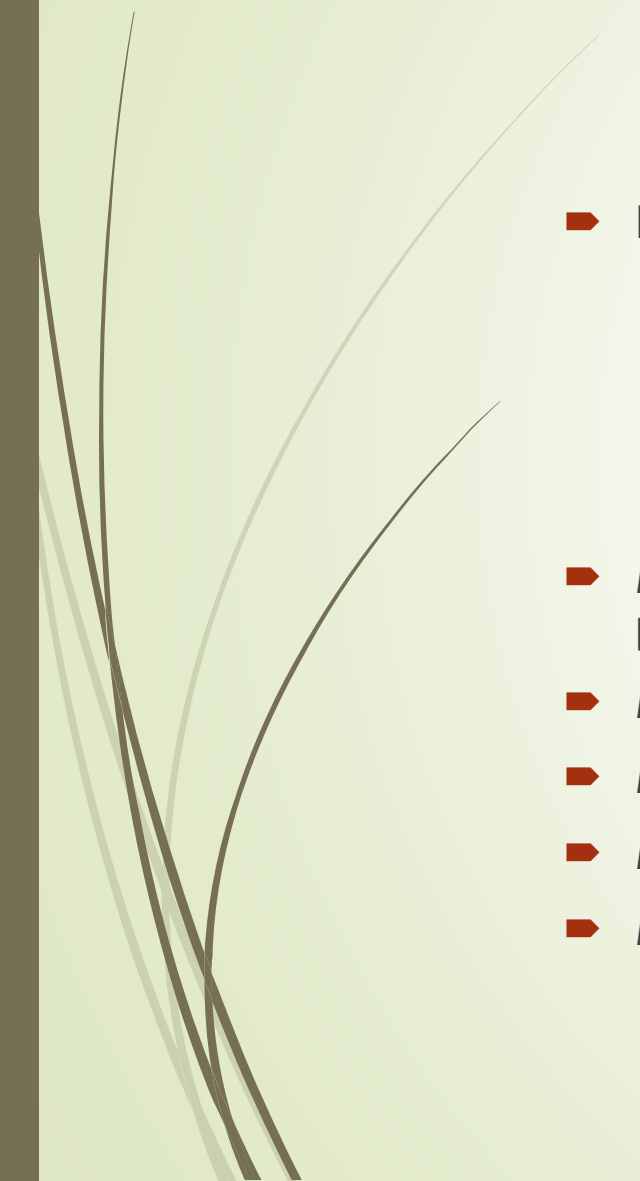




St Mary's, Comberton Churchyard Project

Teresa Taylor – Church Warden



Timeline of Project so far:

- ▶ Early 2020 As part of Eco Church and Caring for God's Acre initiatives:
 - ▶ Approach made to Conservationist
 - ▶ Paul Hardy asked to produce a map to assist with a habitat survey
 - ▶ Spring assessment of the site
 - ▶ Identification of an area which could remain uncut
 - ▶ March 2021 Environments/Biodiversity Project Report - including a record of all plants
 - ▶ May 2021 Diana Cook invited to visit
 - ▶ May 2021 Steering Committee formed
 - ▶ May 2021 Map revised to reflect agreed compartments
 - ▶ May 2021 Mowing regime established
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- ▶ July 2021 Community invited to attend a walk and talk
 - ▶ October 2021 Autumn tidy including the planting/sowing of some native species in the Spring Meadow and Woodland areas



Challenges



- ▶ People have different views on what churchyards should look like
- ▶ For some, the uncut areas can look scruffy and unmanaged
- ▶ Need to be respectful to those who visit loved one's graves
- ▶ Cost implications to change mowing regime
- ▶ Need to make sure only native species are introduced



Benefits



- Improvement to the biodiversity of the area
- Opportunity to engage with the wider community
- Present a pleasant place for people to visit as well as the building



Still to do:.....

- Improve signage
 - Mammal survey
 - Consider Summer/Hay meadow
 - Include The Causeway?
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