

DRAFT Ditchling Parish Council biodiversity initial action plan version 241130

This refers to the draft **biodiversity policy** for definitions of **council areas** of responsibility and **land management** procedures. Appropriate detail would be added in the tendering process for grounds maintenance. This is the process where the cost would be controlled.

Council areas, current projects: refer to the **business plan** projects not new projects. Dates are within the plan. There are no added cost implications here.

Routine (BAU – Business As Usual) are routine functions not necessarily laid out in the business plan, requiring only an annual (maintenance) budget. **Grounds maintenance tendering for Spring 2025 was item 9.3 on the November 2024 agenda.**

Non Council areas have no associated (added) direct costs.

Council areas	Routine (BAU)	Current projects	Comments (routine ; projects)
1-3 Ditchling Gardens	Minimal to maintain appearance till sale	Sale will determine future actions	May not need to include in new maintenance contract
War memorial	Maintain according to policy	None	Refer to policy in maintenance contract tendering for Spring 2025
Recreation ground	As above	Playground	As above ; in progress (tendering)
Burial ground	As above	None	As above ; none
Car park	As above	Wildflower bed	As above; in progress (remediation)
Land W of The Drove	As above	Biodiversity scheme	As above ; contact UKPN
Non council areas	Routine (no direct cost)	External projects	Comments (overall)
Council delegates to ESCC	Road verges: continue choosing same rural and urban grass cuts	None	Keymer Road path maintenance ESCC (directly or possibly with volunteers)
Council supports community groups	Encourages hedge cutting at right times	Community hedge planting	Using small annual grants from usual fund, letters of support
Council promulgates policy	Encourages groups, businesses and residents to consider biodiversity	Community projects	Social media, web site, additional media TBC
Council works with partners	Responses to consultations	Wide area partner projects	Uses policy to inform responses and potential involvement
Council routine business	Responds to planning applications	None	Uses policy to inform comments