

## DAVID BELLAMY CONSERVATION AWARD SCHEME PARK ASSESSMENT 2018

<b>Name of park:</b>	Lindale Holiday Park
<b>Name of assessor:</b>	Ann Hanson
<b>Date of assessment:</b>	25/07/18
<b>Park representative:</b>	Trevor Bradley



## Good Neighbourliness

**Overview:** This is a small, quiet, country park which attracts visitors who enjoy peace and quiet and appreciate the natural surroundings. There are 30 privately owned caravans and a letting fleet of 9 lodges. The only facility on the park is the laundry which doubles as an information room. The local community and local businesses are very well supported by the park.

GN	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
GN1	Minimising intrusiveness (incl. light pollution, noise and traffic nuisance)	<p><b>Highlights:</b>            The park is very unobtrusive, being set in an old sandstone quarry, screened by tall native hedges and strips of mature woodland. One stretch of hedge has been allowed to grow even taller to screen the lodges at the request of a neighbouring landowner. Static caravans are green and lodges brown or green, and amenity buildings on the park are constructed from wood, all blending in well with the natural surroundings. Cladding on some of the static caravans has recently been stained a green/blue colour which blends in well with the surrounding vegetation. Trees and shrubs within the park provide privacy between caravans. The small car park near the park entrance is well screened with a tall, native hedge. Bins and the sewage treatment plant are screened by wooden fencing and the LPG bulk gas tanks are buried under the ground. The park has very subtle, low level lighting with LEDs and downlighters, controlled by dusk to dawn sensors. Small solar lights are used by holiday home owners to light steps at night. The park has a barrier at the entrance, a 10mph speed limit and a small visitors' car park just inside the park entrance. A peaceful environment is maintained by asking visitors not to use the hot tubs after 11pm and not to take radios out onto the decking. Groundworks are carried out from Monday to Friday to keep the site quiet at the weekend when most holiday home owners are present.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b>            A very unobtrusive, peaceful park.</p>

<b>GN</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
GN2	Promoting and using local products and produce	<p><b>Highlights:</b> There are no changes in this category. The park does not have a shop and is in a fairly remote location. However, information is provided to visitors on food produced in the local area. Farm shops and farmers markets are also promoted on the park and in the information provided in the letting lodges. The park owner still buys plants from a local nursery in Bedale and also advertises the nursery to holiday home owners.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Continue to look for new ways to promote local produce.</p>
GN3	Promoting and supporting local businesses	<p><b>Highlights:</b> The laundry contains a good selection of leaflets on local attractions, shops and places to eat. Local information is also supplied in each of the letting lodges and the park website contains plenty of helpful information on local attractions and events. Local markets, farmers markets and farm shops are promoted and listed on the website. The Welcome to Yorkshire Gardens booklet is available in the laundry. Laminated maps are available of how to get to the nearest pubs and also of the locations of the nearest dog friendly pubs.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Good work in this category.</p>
GN4	Supporting and working with the local community (incl. school projects and providing local jobs)	<p><b>Highlights:</b> The park still employs 5 cleaners from Leyburn, Bedale and Catterick and has recently employed a new park assistant. The latter job was only advertised locally. The park also has a new gardener this year from nearby Bedale. Local tradesmen as used required, including a gas fitter, electrician, tree surgeon and a contractor for decking construction. The local community newsletter is still distributed to caravan owners and they are actively encouraged to</p>

GN	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
		<p>join in with local clubs and events such as coffee mornings and open gardens. Events are also advertised on the park website. The village hall now has a small bar and uses a mobile fish and chip van for event catering, with pudding evenings, music nights and wine tasting (the Newton Newts!) all hosted by the village and attended by villagers and caravan owners.</p> <p>The park sponsors the local bridleways group and Caroline is still the local Country Access officer for the British Horse Society, commenting on applications to move or upgrade bridleways locally. Trevor is Honorary President of the RS2000 Class at Thornton Steward Sailing Club and mans the safety boat twice a year as well as volunteering his time to help new sailors at the club. He also organises Crakehall Bridge Club. The park has an annual open house on New Year's Eve to which neighbours are invited and helps out with local projects in the village hall. This year the park once again sponsored Redmire Ale Festival to help raise money to restore part of the Wensleydale Railway.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> The park is very well integrated into the local community.</p>
GN5	Supporting and working with local/national conservation bodies and other charities	<p><b>Highlights:</b> Holiday home owners tend to join in with any charity fundraising in the local village, such as charity coffee mornings, rather than doing separate fundraising on the park. The park is not currently a member of any wildlife conservation charity.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> As suggested last year, consider how the park can support a smaller wildlife charity such as the Bumblebee Conservation Trust by membership, fundraising or a donation in return for some of the excellent information provided on the BBCT website. <a href="https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/">https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/</a></p>
GN6	Helping those with disabilities and other special needs	<p><b>Highlights:</b> There are no changes in this category. There is an accessibility statement on the park website although the topography of the site does not make it</p>

GN	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
		<p>ideal for disabled visitors. One of the letting lodges has level access, but there are no dedicated facilities for wheelchair users. Disabled people would be welcome on the park, but it would depend on their level of disability and Trevor would discuss this with anyone making enquiries.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> A pragmatic approach to accessibility on a rather challenging site.</p>

## Sustainability

**Overview:** Environmentally friendly products are purchased whenever possible, and energy and water conservation and the 3Rs are taken seriously. The solar PV fitted to the park buildings makes a real contribution to energy conservation.

S	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
S1	Green purchasing and procurement	<p><b>Highlights:</b> There are no changes in this category. The park does not have a written purchasing policy, but environmental considerations are taken into account when making purchasing decisions for the park. The letting fleet laundry is washed in-house, using non-biological detergent. Environmentally friendly cleaning products are used wherever possible. Decking is constructed from FSC certified timber.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Continue to use environmentally friendly cleaning products and to recommend their use to caravan owners and visitors. This will benefit wildlife as well as helping the waste treatment plant to work efficiently. Ecover and Bio-D stock some excellent environmentally friendly products. <a href="https://www.ecover.com/">https://www.ecover.com/</a> <a href="https://biodegradable.biz/">https://biodegradable.biz/</a></p>
S2	Energy conservation - lighting, heating, transport and other energy-using devices	<p><b>Highlights:</b> Electricity and gas use is metered and monitored on the park, with all caravans and lodges having individual gas and electricity meters. All caravans, lodges and amenity buildings on the park are double glazed and very well insulated to save energy. Linen from the letting lodges is washed in-house and washing is dried on a line whenever possible to save energy. The park owners walk around the site unless a vehicle is required for the job in hand. Laminated maps</p>

<b>S</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
		<p>showing footpaths to local pubs are provided for visitors to reduce car use, as are the local bus timetables. Local walks and cycle ways are promoted and links from the website show walking and cycle routes and maps.</p> <p>Internal lights are fitted with low energy bulbs or LEDs and the lighting in the main buildings is controlled by motion sensors. Outdoor lighting consists of 7w LEDs with dusk to dawn sensors.</p> <p>Holiday home owners are encouraged to use their heating efficiently and have thermostats fitted and thermostats are kept at 6 degrees in the winter when caravans are empty to prevent water pipes from freezing.</p> <p>The letting fleet have outdoor hot tubs which are heated by 3kw electric heaters.</p> <p>The laundry has a modern, energy efficient washing machine, with an honesty box for donations for its use. Caravans and lodges have modern, efficient combi-boilers for heating water.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Continued good work in this category.</p>
S3	Renewable energy and green energy tariffs	<p><b>Highlights:</b> Solar photovoltaic panels were installed on the park buildings in 2011 and are still making a significant contribution to the parks electricity usage. A wood burning stove in the main house is fuelled by wood from the park.</p> <p>Electricity is not currently on a green energy tariff and the park owners prefer to use an energy supplier that pays VAT and tax in the UK.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Always ask your broker to look at the affordability of green energy tariffs when renewing the parks electricity contract.</p>

S	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
S4	Water conservation	<p><b>Highlights:</b>  The parks water supply is from a borehole which is monitored both by the park owners and by Yorkshire Water, so any leaks are quickly found and dealt with. Static caravans and lodges on the site have individual water meters.  The park does not have a shower block, but toilets in the caravans and lodges are dual flush. A large washing machine in the laundry cuts down the number of washes and saves water. The main amenity buildings have 3 large water butts and some of the static caravans have their own water butts for plant watering.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b>  Continue to encourage holiday home owners to collect rainwater for watering pots and containers. Make sure that water butts have lids to prevent small birds from drowning and to keep algae at bay.  <a href="https://www.waterbuttsdirect.co.uk/">https://www.waterbuttsdirect.co.uk/</a></p>
S5	3R's - Waste reuse, reduction and recycling (incl. sewage treatment)	<p><b>Highlights:</b>  This is a very clean and tidy park, with a well screened bin bay. The park has a Klargester biodisc waste treatment plant which is checked regularly to make sure it is working efficiently and to rescue any stray amphibians. The treatment plant is tested by the EA every 3 months and emptied every 6 months to keep it working efficiently.  Wood from tree removal and pruning is either chipped to provide mulch for flower beds or burnt in the park owners' wood burning stove. Recycled railway sleepers have been used to build raised shrub beds, caravan decking is recycled as boundary fencing and left over timber has been used to make hedgehog hibernation boxes for the site.  Email is used to communicate with holiday home owners whenever possible to cut down on paper usage and a new laser colour printer has been purchased which only requires toner and no ink.  Well sign-posted recycling facilities are located near the park entrance for glass, paper, cardboard, cans and plastic, with holiday home owners and visitors being made aware of the recycling facilities. Recycling is collected by local firm Yorwaste.</p>

<b>S</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
		<b>Recommendations:</b> Excellent work with the 3Rs.

## Ecological management

**Overview:** This is a beautiful, natural park with caravans and lodges scattered in between trees, shrubs and species rich grassland. There are a few raised shrub beds within the more formal part of the park, which have been planted up to benefit wildlife as well as being attractive to visitors. The park is a very peaceful haven for wildlife and people.

<b>E</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
E1	Overall strategy and management (incl. planting policy and horticultural best practice)	<p><b>Highlights:</b></p> <p>The park owners have a very strong conservation ethos, which is evident in the way the park is managed and by the information contained in the Conservation section of the park website. Holiday home owners and visitors are provided information on the park's history and management for wildlife and conservation and are encouraged to share wildlife sightings and photographs. The quarry was designated as a "site of importance for nature conservation" (SINC) by North Yorkshire council in 2003 because of its excellent range of native trees and wild flowers, including early purple and common spotted orchids. The park was developed with this in mind and natural vegetation has been retained across the site. Areas of rough grass, brambles, nettles and dog rose are left around the site to benefit wildlife. The park is a haven for birds and has an excellent range of other wildlife including roe deer, stoats and weasels, rabbits, hares, hedgehogs, moles and bats. A good range of butterflies has been recorded on the park due to the diversity of wild flowers and habitats available.</p> <p>Planting is predominantly of native trees, shrubs and wild flowers, with a few non-native flowering shrubs to benefit wildlife in the raised shrub beds. Holiday home owners are allowed to have plants in containers on their decking but are not allowed to plant directly into the ground in order to protect the native wild flowers from invasive garden plants.</p> <p>Use of chemicals is very limited on the park. Grassland weeds are controlled by cutting or pulling. Thistles and ragwort are controlled by hand pulling and dock by cutting before it goes to seed, although some ragwort is left for cinnabar moth caterpillars to feed on. Bracken is</p>

E	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
		<p>controlled along the paths by snapping off the growing tips. Plant waste is composted on site. Roads on the park are surfaced with local stone, apart from the tarmac entrance drive to reception which is very steep. The rest of the park is mainly grass and woodland with excellent water permeability.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b>  This park is extremely well managed and retains its natural beauty. As suggested previously, provide some information to encourage the static caravan owners to plant bee friendly plants in their pots and containers, covering a long flowering season from early spring to early winter. Also, consider placing some pots containing flowers for pollinators on the decking of the rental lodges along with some bee friendly information inside to encourage visitors to feed the bees when back at home.</p> <p>Butterfly Conservation has a current project called Plots for Pollinators with useful downloads providing information on what to plant in plots and pots to benefit bees and butterflies.  <a href="https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help/plots-for-pollinators">https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help/plots-for-pollinators</a></p> <p>The Bumblebee Conservation Trust also provides some excellent advice on gardening for bumblebees.  <a href="https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/gardeningadvice/">https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/gardeningadvice/</a></p> <p>As do the British Beekeepers Association.  <a href="https://www.bbka.org.uk/gardening-for-bees">https://www.bbka.org.uk/gardening-for-bees</a></p> <p>For more information on butterfly friendly gardening visit:  <a href="https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help/get-involved/gardening">https://butterfly-conservation.org/how-you-can-help/get-involved/gardening</a></p>
E2	Wildlife/environment trails, interpretation and information	<p><b>Highlights:</b>  The park does not have a dedicated nature trail, although there is a mown path right round the park, which takes in all the different habitats. Local nature walks are also promoted by the park. There is a nature board and display area in the laundry, with FSC laminated wildlife ID charts for birds, butterflies and wild flowers. Information on wildlife is also provided in each of the letting lodges and on the park website and Facebook page.</p>

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		<p><b>Recommendations:</b>  As suggested previously, add some Bee Friendly information to the wildlife display in the laundry.  Information is available from:  <a href="https://www.bbka.org.uk/">https://www.bbka.org.uk/</a>  <a href="https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/about-bees/">https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/about-bees/</a>  The Bumblebee Conservation Trust also sells fantastic bee posters at very reasonable prices.  <a href="https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/product-category/merchandise/">https://www.bumblebeeconservation.org/product-category/merchandise/</a>  In addition, the Wildlife Trusts and RHS have teamed up to produce an excellent Wild Bee Action Pack, downloadable from:  <a href="https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-08/Wild%20about%20gardens_wild%20bee%20action%20pack.pdf">https://www.wildaboutgardens.org.uk/sites/default/files/2018-08/Wild%20about%20gardens_wild%20bee%20action%20pack.pdf</a></p>
E3	Wildlife/environment activities and involvement	<p><b>Highlights:</b>  There are no organised wildlife activities on the park, but holiday home owners and visitors are encouraged to enjoy the natural environment and the local wildlife. There is a photograph gallery on the park website, with holiday home owners and visitors being encouraged to send their wildlife photos to be used on the site. Visitors are also signposted to local outdoor attractions such as Thorp Perrow Arboretum and Birds of Prey centre and the Himalayan Garden and Sculpture Park near Ripon.  Butterfly Conservations Big Butterfly Count is carried out by the park owner annually and advertised to caravan owners and visitors.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b>  Continue to encourage holiday home owners and visitors to take part in the Big Butterfly Count annually as the park really lends itself to butterfly spotting! Laminate a few ID sheets and make them available for people to use when carrying out the survey.  <a href="http://www.bigbutterflycount.org/">http://www.bigbutterflycount.org/</a></p>

<b>E</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
E4	Grassland areas	<p><b>Highlights:</b>  Excellent grassland management across the park. Areas of grass and wild flowers on the steepest banks and in the upper meadow on the park are left uncut to provide year round habitat for small mammals and invertebrates. The range of wild flowers on the park is wonderful and is maintained by cutting the meadows annually and by controlling ash and hawthorn regeneration. Green hay has been taken from the quarry meadow and spread on the West Bank for several years to encourage more wild flowers to germinate. Caroline spreads yellow rattle seed to any grassy areas of the park by hand to try and reduce the dominance of grasses and encourage wild flowers. The small meadow between caravans in the quarry still contains cowslips but seems to have less common spotted orchids than previously. This area has always been cut very late in the summer to allow the orchids to go to seed first and the shading effect of adjacent canopy trees may be having a negative effect on orchid success, although there are plenty of orchids elsewhere on the site.</p>

E	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
		<div data-bbox="848 309 1529 826" data-label="Image"> </div> <p data-bbox="1552 379 2033 850">Common spotted orchids and bird's-foot trefoil (Trevor Bradley) The shorter grass on the park is not cut too often and contains a good range of low growing flowers including selfheal, bird's-foot trefoil, white clover and crosswort. The steep bank behind the letting lodges, which was seeded with a wild flower seed mix looks lovely, with flowering black knapweed, wild carrot, musk mallow, betony, hedge bedstraw and ox-eye daisy. Meadows on the site are cut in mid to late August using an</p> <p data-bbox="799 855 2042 1123">allen scythe, with the cut vegetation being left for a couple of days for the seed to fall, then raked off and composted. The meadows have a lovely display of wild flowers including black knapweed, betony, harebell and bird's-foot trefoil – all providing a good source of nectar for bees and other pollinators. A small flock of goldfinches were feeding on knapweed seeds during this year's visit. Also, this year there was an especially good display of orchids on some areas of the park, starting with early purple in the spring and moving on to common spotted over the summer. The far bank of the park has primroses and bluebells under the tree canopy, providing spring nectar for bees and butterflies.</p> <p data-bbox="799 1163 1072 1190"><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p data-bbox="799 1198 2033 1361">Continue with your excellent grassland management. As suggested previously, where the black knapweed and false oat grass are dominant try cutting these areas a bit earlier than usual in early to mid-July. A second cut may also be required in mid to late September if regrowth is significant. Cutting different meadows at different times of the summer can be good for plant species diversity and also helps to promote</p>

<b>E</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
		a long flowering season, providing nectar for bees and butterflies
E5	Formal gardens and planting around pitches	<p><b>Highlights:</b> Formal planting is restricted to around the house and reception, and in the raised shrub beds near the laundry and between some of the lodges which contain shrubs including buddleia, rose of Sharon and potentilla, and herbs including rosemary, sage and lavender, all providing excellent food for bees and butterflies, as well as providing screening between the lodges. Primroses, crocuses, snowdrops and daffodils have also been planted on the park providing a good supply of early nectar for bees and other pollinators. Natural vegetation including trees, shrubs and wild flowers are encouraged between the holiday homes, providing privacy for caravans and lodges and plenty of interest. This is a beautiful, natural park, with the trees and grassland seemingly taking priority, and the caravans sympathetically sited. The caravans near the bottom of the park have a slightly more formal setting with non-native hedging in front.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Excellent work.</p>
E6	Rivers, streams, ponds and wetland areas	<p><b>Highlights:</b> The park has three small ponds with native plants, breeding amphibians, dragonflies and damselflies. One of the ponds contains flowering greater spearwort – a lovely native plant. Ponds are cleaned out in late summer when required and are of great benefit to wildlife in an area where natural ponds are not common.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Lovely natural ponds.</p>

<b>E</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
E7	Trees, hedges and woodland (within park)	<p><b>Highlights:</b>  The park has a good range of native trees and shrubs including oak, ash, field maple, wych elm, lime, alder, rowan, birch, aspen, guelder rose, dogwood, crab apple, hazel, holly and hawthorn, with some lovely ancient ash trees and a veteran field maple within the park. Trees are managed by a local tree surgeon and work has been carried out on the old ash trees to avoid them having to be felled. Willow trees are regularly pruned as they grow at a rapid rate and a few semi-mature trees have been felled to allow more light into some of the caravans. Generally trees are sympathetically pruned or sided up rather than felled to keep them from growing too close to the caravans and lodges. Hazel has also been coppiced to allow more light through, which is good practice. Pruned branches are chipped with the woodchip being used around the park.</p> <p>Large logs were retained from a mature ash tree that had to be felled due to disease and are forming a lovely pile of dead wood for fungi and invertebrates.</p> <p>A belt of native shrubs along the bottom of the wild flower bank include guelder rose, dogwood, field maple, spindle and wayfaring tree, with oregano and ladies bedstraw beneath. Great for butterflies and bees.</p> <p>The mature native hedge along one of the parks boundaries is very old as it is also forms the boundary of an old drovers' road (present on 1752 map). The hedge contains mainly hawthorn and hazel, with mature ash and elm trees, and has been thickened up in the past to improve screening. It is about 3.5m tall and very dense. It is cut annually in January by a local farmer to prevent it from encroaching on the adjacent path and produces flowers and berries within the hedge as it is so wide. There is also a stretch of outgrown hawthorn hedge at the top of the bank on the park, which is unmanaged – great for bullfinches and tree sparrows. A short stretch of old hawthorn shrubs within the park were reduced in height last year to allow light into caravans and are growing back very well.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b>  Good tree and hedge management across the park.</p>

<b>E</b>	<b>Issues</b>	<b>Highlights and Recommendations</b>
E8	Boundary areas	<p><b>Highlights:</b> The park has a lovely old, native hedge along its roadside boundary with mature trees and shrubs along other boundaries. Laurel has been planted more recently to screen caravans from the adjacent farm tip.</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b> Try to use native species rather than non-natives such as laurel for screening wherever possible.</p>
E9	Golf courses	<p><b>Highlights:</b> N/A</p> <p><b>Recommendations:</b></p>
E10	Additional provision of food and shelter (eg. bird feeders and boxes)	<p><b>Highlights:</b> The park has 25 assorted bird boxes and numerous bird feeders. The site is home to a range of wildlife including tawny owls and stoats with visiting brown hare and roe deer. This year wood pigeons have been nesting in the shrubbery between the lodges much to the delight of visitors. Bat boxes have been put up around the park and log piles have been created to provide habitat for small mammals, invertebrates and grass snakes. Hedgehogs are regularly seen around the site and two hedgehog hibernation boxes, constructed from left over timber, are sited in quiet locations and covered in tree prunings. Several species of bumblebees are present on the park, as well as numerous butterflies and 6 spot burnett moths. Shallow water bowls are put out around the park for hedgehogs and other small animals during hot weather.</p>

E	Issues	Highlights and Recommendations
		 <p data-bbox="1659 820 1995 919">Bee hives are already present on neighbouring land and the park owners feel that more bee hives might be a bit too much in one area, although holiday home owners are putting up their own small insect boxes.</p> <p data-bbox="799 1023 1072 1051"><b>Recommendations:</b></p> <p data-bbox="799 1058 1980 1123">As suggested last year, if the park can't host any bee hives, consider putting up a couple of small bee nest boxes in sunny but sheltered locations to provide homes for wild bees.</p> <p data-bbox="799 1126 1458 1155"><a href="https://www.vinehousefarm.co.uk/solitary-bee-box/">https://www.vinehousefarm.co.uk/solitary-bee-box/</a></p> <p data-bbox="799 1158 1476 1187"><a href="https://www.birdfood.co.uk/wildlife/bees-insects.html">https://www.birdfood.co.uk/wildlife/bees-insects.html</a></p>

## Top Three Recommendations

1. As suggested last year, support the Honey Bee Friendly Project by promoting the project to holiday home owners and visitors. Display some bee information in the laundry and provide bee friendly gardening tips.
2. Continue to encourage holiday home owners and visitors to take part in the annual Big Butterfly Count by laminating a few ID sheets and making them available for people to use when carrying out the survey.
3. Provide some information on environmentally friendly cleaning products to holiday home owners, linked to why it is important to use them. Perhaps offer to buy in bulk if enough people are interested.

## Honey Bee Pledge

Please give details of what the park has done to meet the Honey Bee Pledge and say whether you think it has met the criteria for being a 'Honey Bee Friendly Park'.

### **The park has achieved Honey Bee Friendly status again this year.**

The park is really a fantastic place for bees. It already meets most of the criteria for being a 'bee friendly park' and the natural habitats and wild plants on the site lend themselves to encouraging bees. The park is already producing a good supply of food for bees and other pollinators from early spring to early winter due to the range of native trees, shrubs and wild flowers on the site, as well as in the ornamental shrub beds. This could be supplemented by encouraging holiday home owners to carry out bee friendly planting in their pots and containers.

Likewise, there are plenty of natural nesting sites for wild bees in the woods, long grass and hedge bottoms on the site. A couple of small wild bee boxes would be a good addition to the park, mainly to encourage visitors to do the same at home. The park now needs to provide information for holiday home owners and visitors on bee biology and conservation and to consider supporting a bee conservation charity such as the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.

## Wildflower Habitat Initiative

### Square meters of wildflower habitat:

At least 11000m<sup>2</sup> of wild flower habitat around the park.

### Wildflower management actions and plans:

The park has achieved its Wildflower Habitat Badge this year.

- Continue to sympathetically manage the fantastic wild flower areas around the park to benefit wildlife and people.



Betony and ox-eye daisies (Trevor Bradley)

- Consider cutting some areas where black knapweed and false oat grass are dominant a bit earlier than usual in early to mid-July to try and reduce this dominance and encourage other wild flowers to thrive.
- Visit <http://www.plantlife.org.uk/> and <https://www.floralocale.org/> for more information on wildflower meadow management and conservation.

## Hedge Habitat Initiative

### Meters of wild-life friendly hedge:

150m boundary hedge plus 50m outgrown hawthorn at top of bank.  
**200m in total.**

### Hedge management actions and plans:

**The park achieved its Hedgerow Habitat Badge in 2017.**

- Retain the unmanaged hawthorn hedge at the top of the bank as a valuable resource for wildlife and a good screen for the park.
- Continue to manage the wide roadside hedge annually to keep the adjacent path passable, trimming in Jan or Feb to allow wildlife to feed on any seeds and berries within the hedge over the winter.
- Plant climbers such as honeysuckle into hedges to provide nectar for bees and butterflies.
- Leave a strip of unmanaged vegetation at least 1m wide at the base of hedges and construct wildlife habitat piles from logs in the bottom of established hedges to benefit small mammals, hedgehogs and invertebrates.
- Visit <http://hedgeline.org.uk> for information on hedgerow management and conservation.