Possible Areas & Costs for Wildflower Policy adoption

This has been referred back for more information regarding locations and costs. Looking through our portfolio there are possible location which could either wholly or partially be turned into wild flower areas however it is important that each site is visited and evaluated prior to a decision being made so that it fits in with the plan of action of this committee to draw up site by site 5 year plus plans. The type and amount of area needs to be relevant, proportional and usuable and enhance the bio-diversity and pleasure gained from the space. We would also want to consider if the space is purely a wild flower space or, as with Clarkes Meadow if we create a wild flower maze, a play area as well. Additionally, we would want to carry out community consultation and bring the community along with the plans rather than just impose it.

The aim of introducing wild flower areas should not be about saving costs, indeed Norse have indicated that there would be no real saving as cutting crews still have to go out to cut the areas which are still cut grass. Indeed, it is likely that there would be additional cost in the first year at each site due to the process set out in the policy for rotivation and seeding (which hopefully if successful should not need to be repeated.) Obviously, this cost would vary depending on the size of the site and the preparation/seeds needed. On a smaller site this should be possible from the Parks Development but with a larger site we may need to ask for a specific amount to go into the budget and obtain a quote.

Possible locations

Clarks Meadow (as per plan)
Gunton Community Park (Areas)
Fen Park (Areas)
The Denes (Areas)
Normanston Park (South/South-west corner)
The Trams (areas)
The Uplands Road pond area
Stoven Close (areas)
Delius Close
Open space at Turnberry Road/Long Road
Parkhill (Areas)
Rosedale (Areas)
Thirlmere (Areas)

Depending on future decisions

The enclosed play area at Uplands Road could have play equipment removed and turned into a nature area

Different Nature Locations

Arnolds Bequest

This should definitely be a natural location but the site does not sit with being a wild flower meadow because of its woodland aspect.