Dear Resident, June 2019

At the May Parish Council meeting, I was pleased to be given the role of Wildlife Warden. This is a newly created role and the purpose of this update is simply to explain why you might now see my name associated with parish wildlife issues.

The parish wildlife warden’s role is under the general umbrella of Natural Devon’s ‘Local Nature Partnership’, which aims to bring together a number of organisations and individuals who want to ensure a healthy natural environment for both people and wildlife.

The role is outlined as follows:-

*Volunteer Parish wildlife wardens would lead on wildlife issues for their Parish Council, helping to protect and enhance wildlife within the parish. They would receive some basic e-training on wildlife issues including legislation / policy / Devon priorities and potentially attend an annual meeting. They might then help the parish to comment on planning applications and help to protect and enhance wildlife through any land management carried out by the parish (play areas, footpaths etc). They would act as a link to sources of expertise to ensure that the action parishes and their communities take is well informed and helps to deliver Devon’s wildlife priorities.*

I will be working to better understand this role and discuss ideas over the coming weeks. At an early stage I will contact our neighbouring parishes to see how many of them have also become involved.

We are lucky to live in a beautiful natural environment in North Devon and anything we can do to enhance and protect its wildlife and that wildlife’s habitat will, I am sure, have your general support. I will welcome any thoughts you have.

With thanks,

Mike Moss.

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