

Wild Bunch strategy – 2025

To deliver our mission & so achieve our vision

1. Provide direct outreach activities:

We run regular, free monthly gatherings, open to anyone interested in gardening for wildlife, whether in private gardens or local green spaces. These gatherings focus on a wide range of topics related to wildlife gardening, from pollinator-rich planting to providing wildlife housing. When indoors they are in a wheelchair-accessible building. In school holidays the sessions are more child-focused –e.g. pond-dipping. Gatherings are planned to allow time for participants to mix socially with others attending, so providing opportunities to extend neighbourhood networks. We also promote wildlife gardening by writing a fortnightly column in the free Frome Times, providing information on topical subjects and advertising our face-to-face activities.

Other occasional outreach activities include neighbourhood bird-box building workshops and wildflower planting days, participation in community events (e.g. Frome Children's Festival, Potato & Seed Swap Day, Frome's Great Big Green Week), speaking to local groups about our work, providing visual displays about the work of the Wild Bunch (e.g. library, shop windows), organising evening events such as talks from guest speakers and film screenings.

2. Connect with existing wildlife initiatives:

Engage with Somerset Wildlife Trust, including their Team Wilder activities (e.g. encouraging people to apply for their Wild Garden plaque).

Liaise with the Bat Conservation Trust to run two Frome bat counts each year.

Encourage participation in Frome's own Community Wildlife Mapping Project, using iNaturalist to monitor biodiversity and the impact of wildlife friendly actions.

Plans for 2025

We plan to deliver 11 daytime Wild Bunch Gatherings, 2 Big Bat Counts, 4 DIY (bird/bat box building) events and 2 evening events (guest speakers/films). In addition, participation at community events will continue. We will also publish 25 Frome Times columns. Finally we plan to launch a Garden Advice Service, offering home visits to help people get started with wildlife gardening, plus a Whatsapp Wild Bunch group to exchange tips, ideas and questions.