

## NEWTON LE WILLOWS, KEEPMOAT AND AFFINITY SUTTON



### BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW

The main drivers for the project were planned works which had been historically deferred. The original scope of the project was to demolish unsightly and underused garages, stores and drying areas in front of 48 two bedroom flats. The aim was to improve parking provision to the Stephenson Road flats and the remodelling of the landscaping around the flats.

The soft landscaping design was bold and expansive. To achieve an estate wide impact Keepmoat and Affinity Sutton planted:

- 140 semi mature trees
- 1400 shrubs and herbaceous plants
- 20,000 native bulbs
- 2500 square meters of flowering meadow grass
- 300 linear meters of mixed hedging.

This planting schedule was designed to promote wildlife and increase biodiversity. Roosting boxes for birds and bats were added to gable ends and existing trees.

Keepmoat offered every resident water butts, owl energy monitors and bird or bat boxes, fitted free of charge. This was an investment in to the community and to promote saving electric and conserving energy.

To help with our planting we held two planting events, one for staff and residents, and the other for local school children. Working with Housing Management and Neighbourhood Investment, we planted large amounts of bulbs and the children from Wargrave Primary School sowed Flanders poppy seeds. Landscape architect Camlin Lonsdale also did a presentation at the school.

### Fact box

**Company name:**  
Keepmoat and Affinity Sutton

**Project name:**  
Newton Le Willows Year 5  
Environmental Works

**Location:**  
Gooch Drive & Stephenson Road

**Biodiversity enhancement:**

- Bird and bat boxes
- Wildflower meadow
- Tree, shrub and bulb planting

**Size:**

- 140 semi mature trees
- 1400 shrubs and herbaceous plants
- 20,000 native bulbs
- 2500 square meters of flowering meadow grass
- 300 linear meters of mixed hedging.

**Cost:**  
N/A

**Tips:**  
N/A

**Year completed:**  
2014

### Categories:

- Small scale temporary
- Community engagement
- Most innovative

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## BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT OVERVIEW (cont.)

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Wildflower Meadow was installed as part of the contracted works. This offered a diverse and an exceptionally attractive habitat for the pleasure of young and old alike. This also helped to promote pollination.

Gym equipment was provided for people of all ages allowing the community the opportunity to take part in physical activity in an attractive environment.

A playground was installed as a feature to incorporate the theme of train manufacture in the local area. Features include a timber tunnel to pathway, path formed as a railway track through the estate.

### Keeping residents in the loop

The demolition and construction of the project was hugely disruptive for our residents. We produced a fortnightly newsletter to all residents detailing what work was scheduled and where in the next two weeks, so all residents could be fully kept up to date and forewarned of likely disruption and to their ability to access certain areas or park in certain locations. This resulted in only one complaint and very low numbers of residents contacting the call centre.

A presentation was made to the North West RAP, which concluded with a tour of the completed works. The project was very warmly received.

### Celebrating

A resident fun day to mark the completion of the works took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> July. The school children returned to the estate to see the fruits of their labour. With plenty to entertain and hog roast to sustain, the event was a great success and provided some very positive feedback from residents on the project”.

### Pictures of the enhancements

