



On May 9th this year, 29 acres of land between Blackhole Lane and the western side of the Millennium Green came up for sale at auction, and although we tried to raise sufficient interest locally to try and purchase the whole area, unfortunately not enough firm commitment could be guaranteed in time to place a bid and, even if there had been sufficient pledges the price at auction far exceeded the target price.

The Fields we're subsequently purchased by A.J. Busby Ltd the fruit farmer from Billington Farm.

After the sale the Derrington Millennium Green Trustees contacted Mr & Mrs Busby to see whether it would be possible to purchase part of the land, two particular packets were of interest one adjacent to the Green way walk, the old Red Lion and Twemlow Close and the other adjacent to the Millennium Green and the Brook (please see map).

The land adjacent to the Greenway was not for sale as this is where the metered water enters the whole site, the field adjacent to the brook however was.

This piece of land measures 1.39 Hectares (3.43 Acres) is a natural grassland meadow, but over 50% of its area is designated by the environment agency as a natural 'flood meadow' for the Doxey Brook which meanders alongside the length of the field, before continuing on towards Stafford before joining the River Sow. We don't have this habitat on the green so this is a perfect location to promote endangered wetland/ flood meadow species as well as creating more recreational space.

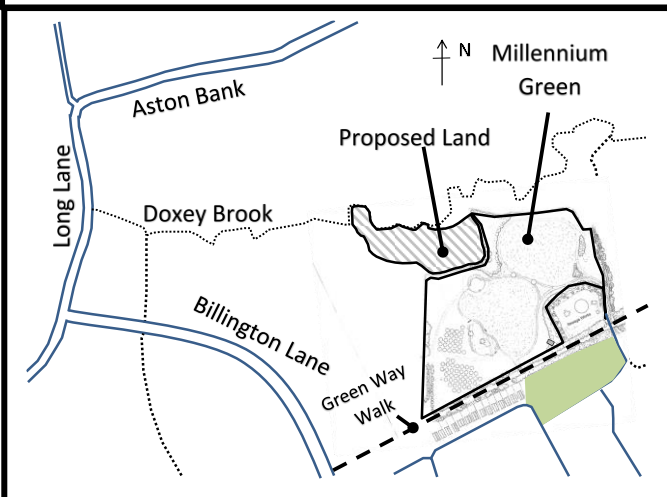
During the recent Millennium Green Trust AGM, the above proposal was presented to gauge potential support, of the 40+ people who attended the response was overwhelming to try and secure the additional land.

Why would we want to expand the Green?

The Green has been a fantastic success since its inception in 1998, it is now regarded as a key conservation site in Staffordshire. The Millennium Green is now more popular than ever and although there is more than sufficient work for the trustees and Volunteers keeping the Green in good order, this is a one off opportunity to create another unique and special environment.

- We are fortunate to be given the opportunity, whatever the cost.
- We have been given an extended period to try and raise the funds.
- This land joins directly onto the Millennium Green.
- Flood meadows are disappearing at an alarming rate and need to be preserved.
- Gives access to a potential greater diversity of natural flora and fauna.
- Already advised by Staffordshire Wildlife Trust of the importance of this piece of land.
- Possible stewardship opportunities in the future.
- Benefits the community and the planet.
- Opportunities to offer more sponsored trees, shrubs or seats.

Map of proposed site



Why support us?

We as a group of volunteers, believe strongly in leaving a lasting legacy in Derrington for future generations. This will greatly enhance such a legacy.

Derrington Millennium Green Trust have an exemplary track record which gives us credibility in achieving our stated goals and when dealing with funding bodies (you can plainly see where our funding goes and what it creates)

Please help us!

Please see over for how we intend to fund the project and how you could help.

How much needs to be raised?

We need to raise about **£45,000** which will include:-

- Land purchase/ Planning Permission/ Legal Fees (searches, registration, solicitors etc.)
- Boundary work (wooden fencing, new entrance etc.)/ Tree work (inspection and report of existing trees)

How can we raise the Funding?

We have been looking at various grant funding organisations, but so far we have not found any that fund land purchase, so we are launching a public appeal.

The good news is that at our recent AGM at which more than 40 people attended, the Trustees and our supporters overwhelmingly agreed that we should have a go at raising the money to purchase the land, so far we have firm pledges of **£18,380** (which includes 3 supporter's pledges of £1,000 each since the AGM)

We realise that fundraising on this scale is not easy, so all we are asking for at this moment is a pledge, so we can hopefully get all the money in place by pledges, then when we have enough we would ask you to honour your pledge (in the meantime we are exploring other avenues of funding)

if you would like to support this project financially, please fill in the amount you wish to pledge along with your details and return it to one of the addresses on the form or send an e-mail to derringtonmgt@btinternet.com (apologies for those of you who have tried to use the old e-mail address but due to unforeseen circumstances, a new e-mail address had to be created).

Obviously the more you can pledge the better, but whatever amount you pledge will be greatly appreciated as will be any support including suggestions for funding.

You can also either download a pledge form or fill one in on our website at derringtonmillenniumgreen.com

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Derrington Millennium Green Flood Meadow Pledge Form

I would like to support this project with my pledge of -

£ _____ (amount in figures) _____ (amount in words)

I understand that this pledge will be redeemable by the Derrington Millennium Green Trust on behalf of the project on completion of the fund-raising.

Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Organisation if relevant _____

Please tick if you are a UK taxpayer, so we can calculate Gift Aid

Please return as soon as possible to:

Mike Clements, 20 Twemlow Close, Derrington Stafford, ST18 9LX Phone = 01785 249 334

Roy Wood, 3 Field Crescent, Derrington, Stafford, ST18 9LT Phone = 01785 242 451 or Mobile = 07816 291 201

We can also be contacted via our website as mentioned above.