

Friends of Juniper Hill Field



Today the fields are rich in grass,
And buttercups in thousands grow;
I'll show the world where I have been –
With gold-dust seen on either shoe.

What We're Up To

14 June, 2023

In the last few weeks, the Friends of Juniper Hill Fields have made a lot of progress. We have reached out to Natural England, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council and the Campaign for the Preservation of Rural England. We have also contacted the media, both local and national. On all sides, we have met with encouragement, interest and concern. A number of prominent local figures are now being approached for their support. We are delighted that Mary Portas, a long time resident of Slad, has offered her support as an honorary patron. Please let us know if you have connections to people locally with influence who might be able to help us.

On June 13th a number of local residents met the local Green Party councillor Gary Luff to discuss two possible options for action. First, we are looking into pursuing an Article Four to be applied to the field. This would make it necessary to acquire planning permission for any small huts or cabins if any future owner tried to do such a thing. (If the field is sold in plots this is the sort of development which is highly likely and would be very intrusive in such a site).

Secondly we are looking into registering the field as a Community Asset. This would not prevent sale but could delay it. If you have expertise in either of these areas, please get in touch.

We are delighted that [Patrick Barkham](#), one of the country's best selling nature writers (author of the book, Wild Isles, of the David Attenborough series) and a regular contributor to The Guardian, is very interested in what is happening and keen to write about Juniper Hill Field.

We have also had interest from local media... more anon!

Many thanks to those who have contacted the website with advice or information related to getting a more accurate survey of the many species which flourish on this beautiful hill top. We are keen to make contact with organisations such as Glorious Grasslands, Painswick Conservation Society, local butterfly conservation groups and others. We are building our networks to many organisations locally and nationally.

We will continue to issue a short newsletter with updates – if you leave your email on the site, we will keep you posted. Please also let us know if you are willing to have your name associated with your expressions of support. [Voices in the Field](#) is growing longer and louder.

We have reason to believe that Juniper Hill Field can be saved for future generations and are working hard to bring that about.

Visit our website



This lovely Bee orchid (*Ophrys apifera*) was photographed in Juniper Hill Field. It is one of five species of orchid to be found there.

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