

Monmouthshire Meadows Group

Registered Charity No. 1111345

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PRESS RELEASE

Biffa Award Helps Save Kingcoed's Wonderful Wildflower Meadows

Monmouthshire Meadows Group (MMG) is delighted to announce that, after many months of fund-raising, it has reached its target of £96,000 to buy two traditional flower-rich meadows at Kingcoed near Raglan, securing their future.

The Meadows Group has been overwhelmed by the generosity shown by so many MMG members, well-wishers and local and national organisations. "It was an ambitious target, but we felt we had to give it a go in order to save these precious wild flower meadows," said group chairperson Dr Stephanie Tyler.

Throughout 2015, the group managed to secure substantial donations from generous supporters and grants from various trusts including The Banister Trust, Waterloo Foundation, Alan Evans Memorial Trust, Foyle Foundation, New Grove Trust, Gwent Wildlife Trust, the Ricardo Crawley Trust and Waitrose Community Fund. But they were still some way from the final target. Then, in December MMG had confirmation that Biffa Award was to give the group £45,000 towards the purchase of the fields and subsequent work on leaflets and display material to encourage the use of the fields by the public. Biffa Award is a multi-million pound fund that helps to build communities and transform lives through awarding grants to community and environmental projects across the UK (www.biffa-award.org).

"This very large award means that the Trustees of the Meadows Group can now complete the purchase of the fields," said Stephanie. "We would like to sincerely thank Biffa Award for their large grant as well as all the other Trusts and individuals who have kindly donated to the cause and made the purchase possible. The Kingcoed meadows are part of Monmouthshire's environmental heritage and we hope that people will come along on our open days to enjoy this beautiful, natural habitat."

The meadows will be open to the public on National Meadows Day on 2 July 2016.

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NOTES FOR EDITORS

Monmouthshire Meadows Group

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MMG is a registered charity formed 13 years ago with the aim of conserving and restoring flower rich grasslands in Monmouthshire. We give practical advice and help to members to enable them to manage their own fields and gardens effectively, and promote traditional meadow management methods in order to enhance the wildlife value of their land. The group is run by a voluntary committee which includes experts in botany and ecology.

www.monmouthshiremeadows.org.uk

Biffa Award

Since 1997, Biffa Award has awarded grants totalling more than £156 million to thousands of worthwhile community and environmental projects across the UK. The programme administers money donated by Biffa Group Ltd through the Landfill Communities Fund.

www.biffa-award.org

Landfill Communities Fund

The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) is an innovative tax credit scheme enabling operators (LOs) to contribute money to organisations enrolled with ENTRUST as Environmental Bodies (EBs). EBs use this funding for a wide range of community and environmental projects in the vicinity of landfill sites. LOs are able to claim a credit (currently 5.7%) against their landfill tax liability for 90% of the contributions they make.

Since its inception in 1996, over £1.4billion has been spent on more than 51,000 projects across the UK. For further information please visit www.entrust.org.uk or see HMRC's general guide to landfill tax.