

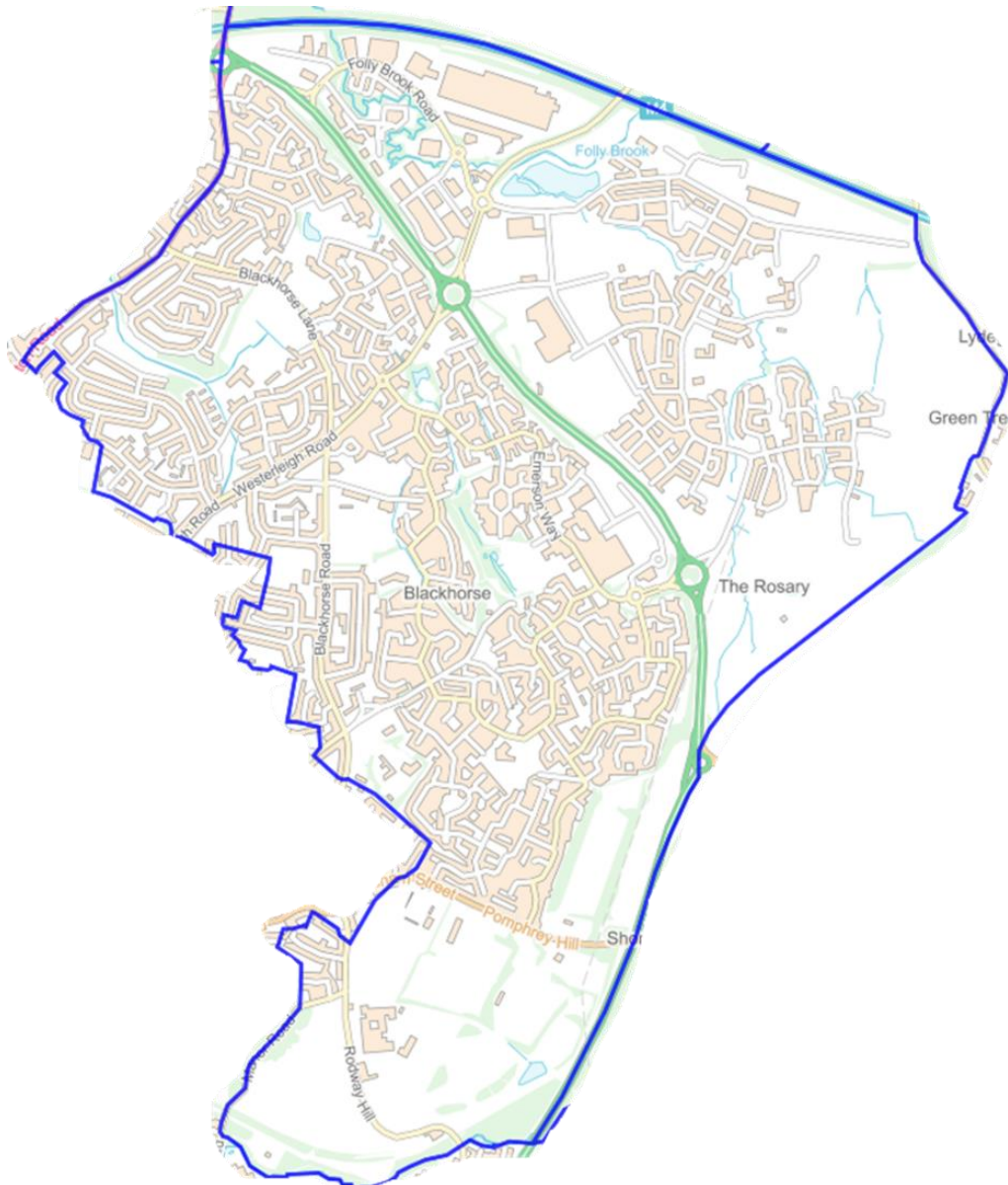


EMERSONS GREEN
TOWN COUNCIL

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where is the Community Nature Reserve?

The Community Nature Reserve covers the whole of the Emersons Green Town Council area from the M4 and Lyde Green in the north down to Rodway in the south and takes in Blackhorse, Badminton and Pomphrey.



What is a Community Nature Reserve?

It's where people locally with gardens and window boxes join forces to commit to making suitable habitats for nature and wildlife in our own spaces. The Nature Reserve also includes the land under local authority control and so it is an opportunity for people to work together to make our whole area welcoming to wild life.

There are many Community Nature Reserves in the UK, first was set up in Felixstowe [Felixstowe's Community Nature Reserve - Home | Facebook](#)

Who is managing the Community Nature reserve?

The Community Nature Reserve is an initiative of Emersons Green Town Council and was launched on the 19th January 2023. The project is managed by the Climate and Nature Working Group of the Council which consists of Councillors and local people.

Why are we creating a Community Nature Reserve?

Most of us are aware of the climate issues we face and the impact this is having on wildlife. For example since the 1970's we have seen a reduction in UK butterflies of 44%. Our gardens are a huge resource within our control to make better places for wildlife to thrive.

Why do I need to register my garden– I can just do this on my own?

By registering you get the window sticker to display to show you are part of the Community Nature Reserve. Lots of these going up locally will create a buzz . The more people who register, the more others are encouraged to do so.

It gives visible backing to a worthwhile community project – the members organising it get feedback that people are engaged and feel it is of value.

It shows we care about the natural world and helps shift public opinion. By registering your garden you are saying 'I back this'. This sends a powerful message to our community, local council and businesses that people here are concerned about the environment and influences their behaviours and policies.

By registering we can work together on micro projects – for example if several neighbours register, we can look at assisting with creating hedgehog corridors between gardens.

The more people who register, the more others are encouraged to do so.

I've joined the Facebook group, EGTC Community Nature Reserve, why do I need to register on the Council website as well?

The Facebook group is a great way to share your news about what's happening in your garden, but to be a member of the Community Nature Reserve you need to register your garden on the Emersons Green Town Council website, <https://emersonsgreen-tc.gov.uk/>

Registering on the website means you get a window sticker with the Community Nature Reserve logo. It also means we can keep you updated about news and events and it allows the Town Council to know how many gardens are taking part.

What about privacy?

Your details are held securely by the Town Council and administered by them solely for the purposes of the Community Nature Reserve. Any communications about the Community Nature Reserve will not disclose specific locations of gardens. Your garden is still your own private garden and no one has access unless you personally invite people to your garden.

Can I de-register my garden?

If you want to de-register your garden at any time you can do so by emailing the Town Council.

clerk@emersonsgreen-tc.gov.uk

I don't have a garden- can I still join?

That is fine even a window box counts.

I'm in rented accommodation, can I still join?

You are welcome to register a rented garden. You may need to check with your landlord if you want to make changes to the garden.

How do I measure my garden?

Easy – just take an easy stride, measure that and use that to calculate your garden size.

For example if your stride is 65 cm just multiply 0.65 by the number of strides long and wide to get your plot length and width.

Do I need to have to have all the items listed on the registration form?

No, as long as you are doing something to encourage wildlife. The list on the registration form is just to prompt with ideas of things you might do and also to get a feel of what people are doing across the whole area. You can join if you are just at the beginning of the journey to make your garden a welcoming place for wild life.

Do I need to join in with Community Nature Reserve Events?

As a member of the Community Nature Reserve you are most welcome to join in with the programme of events, but there is no obligation to come to any meetings.

