

Mill Field – Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes



This is the Mill Field at Stony Stratford. It has been the ownership of The Parks Trust's since 1992. The whole area is managed for amenity and was once all managed as mown amenity grassland. The northern section (investigated in this survey) was subject to a management change in about 2005 from amenity grassland to an annual late summer hay cut (interspersed with mown amenity paths). This has been continued since that time. The area was overseeded in about 2007.

No inputs are used currently although spot treatment of any patches of thistles/docks only may have occurred in the past.

The area in general is species poor, with little change since the survey in 1997. Perennial rye grass and white clover dominate a significant part of the meadow. At the northern end, there is an area of richer vegetation where 5 from 12 species sown in 2007 are still present.

Meadow barley, perennial rye grass and false oat grass, with red fescue in places, are the main grasses in the northern section. Meadow foxtail, Timothy, cock's-foot, yellow oat grass and crested dog's tail grass are present in small amounts.

A few herbs dominate in patches including silverweed, creeping buttercup and white clover. Other herbs including selfheal, ladies bedstraw, meadow vetchling, yarrow, meadow cranesbill, red clover, oxeye daisy, ribwort plantain, common knapweed and others are present in patches. The presence of species characteristic of waste ground indicate on-going disturbance in some areas