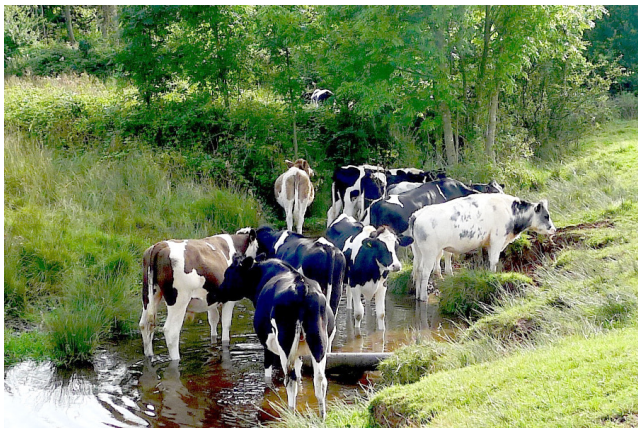


In early summer swathes of pignut and buttercup cover the Green, whilst in Autumn waxcap fungi can be found nestling in the short grass. Leomansley Brook crosses the Green and gives rise to a much wetter habitat, including rush pasture. Here a wide range of damp-loving and wetland plants can be found including greater tussock sedge, marsh pennywort and water figwort. Reed bunting successfully breed each year amongst the rush and herons can often be seen hunting in the brook. In winter you may be lucky enough to see some over-wintering snipe amongst the rush cover.

If you visit the Green between May through to October, then you will probably see a small herd of cattle quietly grazing the sward. They play a vital role in effectively shaping this meadowland habitat; something that has been ongoing for the last 200 years.



## RECEIVING INFORMATION AND VOLUNTEERING

If Pipe Green is a place that you value, then you may want to get more involved in supporting us. You can do this in a number of ways ranging from simply being on our mailing list, and so receive regular updates from us, to being more active and volunteering for one of our work parties. You do not have to be a member of the Pipe Green Trust in order to get involved, so anybody who is interested is welcome!

If you would like to get involved please complete the online form at ([www.pipegreentrust.org/volunteering](http://www.pipegreentrust.org/volunteering)) or post the completed form below to the address on the front page.

Title / Name .....

.....

Address .....

.....

.....

E-mail .....

Would you like to receive regular updates by email? .....  YES  NO

Would you like to receive a copy of our newsletter? .....  YES  NO

Would you be prepared to help with work parties on Pipe Green? .  YES  NO

# The Pipe Green Trust

Formed in 1793



Conserving Pipe Green common on behalf of the local community

[www.pipegreentrust.org](http://www.pipegreentrust.org)

 [trust.committee@pipegreentrust.org](mailto:trust.committee@pipegreentrust.org)

 @pipegreentrust

 [facebook.com/pipegreentrust](https://facebook.com/pipegreentrust)

 The Secretary, The Pipe Green Trust, 52 Beacon Street, Lichfield, WS13 AJ

## ABOUT THE TRUST ...

Pipe Green is an area of meadowland that is today enjoyed by many Lichfield residents. There is evidence that the land has been used for animal grazing since medieval times, and as a result, it is one of the few remaining examples of unimproved meadowland within Staffordshire. Today it is managed under a Higher Level Stewardship scheme to maintain this rare habitat.



Many of the visitors to Pipe Green enjoy the tranquillity of the Green and the unspoilt views to the cathedral; a perspective that must have hardly changed for hundreds of years. What may be less obvious to visitors is the variety of ecological habitats that exist on the Green; these support a wealth of plants, birds as well as invertebrates and fungi. This has led to Pipe Green being registered as a Site of Biological Importance (SBI).

We hope that you enjoy your visit to Pipe Green and that you recognise the value of this under appreciated gem of Lichfield.

## FINDING PIPE GREEN



Access is via the public footpaths that cross the Green (including the Heart of England Way). Parking is available off the A51 Western Bypass, adjacent to the football fields. More details can be found on the website.

## HISTORY

The early history of Pipe Green is not well documented. However, from later records we believe that the land was given to the residents of Beacon Street, possibly in the 1600's, to graze their geese and livestock. Over time the grazing rights were abused and in 1793 residents of Beacon Street drew up a legal document to form the Pipe Green Trust.



Only Beacon Street residents could join the Trust and they controlled access to the Green. Each Trust member could graze a maximum of 2 head of cattle between May and February and residents had to pay 3s 6d

per animal per year. From this income, half went to improve the Green (e.g. drainage, clearing ditches, cutting nettles) and the other half was given to the widows of Beacon Street as a distribution at Christmas. The original legal document forming the Trust, as well as the accounts books, dating from 1793, are held in Lichfield Record Office and give a fascinating insight into how the Green was managed.

## ECOLOGY

Pipe Green and the immediate surrounding area supports a variety of ecological habitats, which means that a wide range of flora and fauna can be found on the Green. A large part of the Green is well drained meadowland which contains a rich diversity of plant species, including adder tongue fern, bee and common spotted orchids and meadow saxifrage.

