## Why is the Local Nature Reserve so important?

Prestwick Road Meadows LNR has some of the most beautiful wildflowers in the district.

Up until the 1940s, flower-rich hay meadows and pastures were a common sight. Since then more than 97% of these habitats have been lost. Prestwick Road Meadows is one of the few meadows that survived untouched.

It is a small place, taking just half an hour to walk around but there is plenty to see. The site is a remnant of old farm meadows. The ancient hedgerows that separated the fields can still be seen.

There is a seasonal pond that attracts frogs and herons in the spring. Summer is the best time to see the meadows in flower. The purple knapweed, yellow birdsfoot-trefoil and red clover create a tall colourful patchwork, with lots of insects. In autumn its hedgerows provide food for a wide variety of birds.

## How do we keep it special?

The meadows are cut just once a year at the end of summer. Grass pathways are cut more regularly to allow people to walk easily throughout the meadows.

