

PENDLE HILL FARMERS GROUP AIMS

The group aims to:

- Increase understanding of local Countryside Stewardship priorities and knowledge of landscape scale conservation techniques, and to encourage the uptake of schemes
- Work together with as many group members as possible implementing these techniques on, and across, members' farms by:

i) Restoring, managing and expanding priority habitats: woodlands, grasslands, wetlands and moorlands

ii) Restoring traditional boundaries

iii) Implementing natural flood management techniques



We will provide facilitation services for approximately 1 day a week over 3 years, to:

- Establish and extend the group and identify their detailed training needs
- Develop, organise and deliver a detailed training plan
- Hold a minimum of six meetings a year to provide opportunities for networking and learning
- Support the development of practical landscape scale activity, including identifying and securing funds
- Liaise with local initiatives
- Provide secretariat for the group including reports and claims for the project

In order to deliver the group aims we will provide training in:

- Understanding priorities and applying for Countryside Stewardship grants (boundaries, woodlands, catchment sensitive, Mid Tier agreements)
- Sustainable soil management (including soil tests)
- Natural flood management
- Farming for pollinators
- Whole farm water management & planning
- Rush management techniques



Activities will also include:

- Surveys of farmland and woodland birds and other farm wildlife
- Managing woodlands and boundaries (skills training)
- Annual forums (including guest speakers and discussions)
- Farm visits to view boundary and woodland management; green hay transfers; wetland management, high nature value farming
- Group Visits to other farmer networks to view natural flood management; RBAP trials; peatland restoration
- Practical action to support local wildlife

