

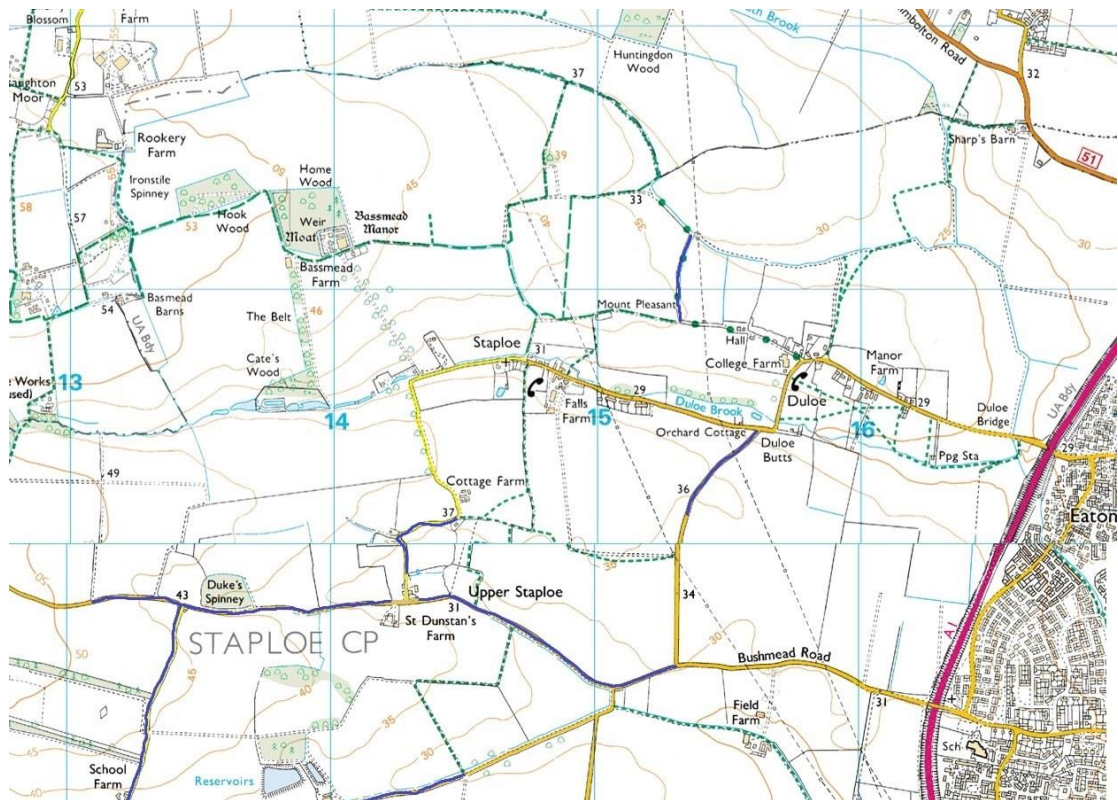
## Roadside Nature Reserves

There are two original Roadside Nature Reserves in the Parish. One at Upper Staploe Grid Ref TL134597 on both sides of the roads south of Dukes Spinney, and one in Honeydon Grid Ref TL128582 - 1239588 between Honeydon and Begwary.

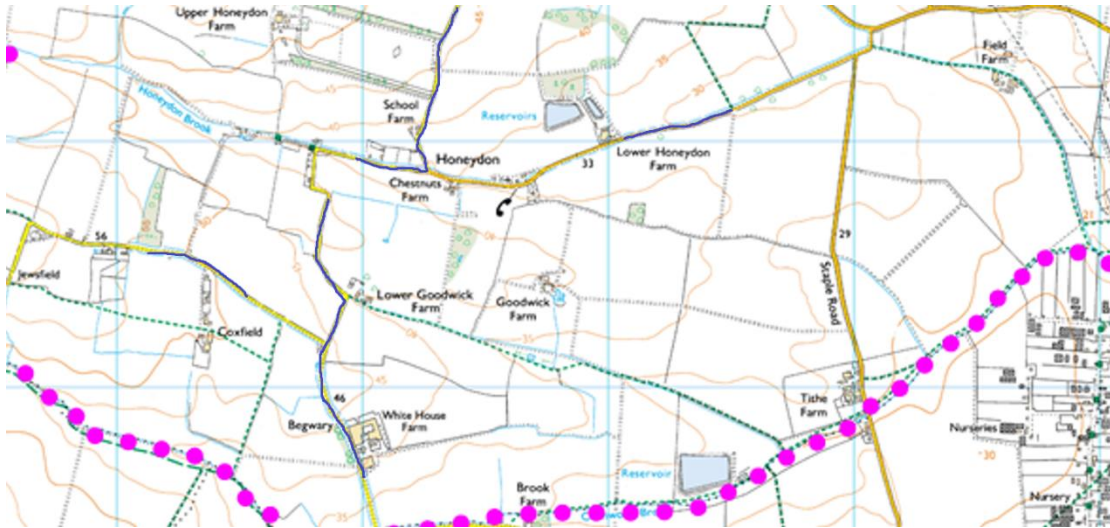
However, the reserves were extended by Phillip Fox of Bedford Borough Council in 2018 due to the prevalence of the rare wildflower Spiked Star of Bethlehem.

The extended reserves are highlighted in purple on the maps below.

### Map of Nature Reserves in Duloe, Staploe and Bushmead Road



## Map of Nature Reserves in Honeydon and Begwary (pink dots are parish boundary).



The following roads are highlighted: Woodhouse Lane from the bridleway to the bridge by the pylon, northern half of Shakers Way, Gypsy Lane from Silver Birches to just before Tally Ho, Bushmead Road from junction with Shakers Way to 50m beyond the junction with Cadbury Lane excluding 10m either side of the junction with Gypsy Lane, all of Cadbury Lane, eastern half of Manor Farm Lane, a short stretch from Lower Honeydon Farm extending east, Begwary Lane after double bends to White House Farm and Honeydon Road about 50m either side of Coxfield.

### The Flowers

The roadside nature reserves contain, among other wild flowers, Spiked Star of Bethlehem, Sulphur Clover, and Crested Cow Wheat.

Spiked Star-of-Bethlehem (*Ornithogalum pyrenaicum*) also known as Bath Asparagus (but it is protected so please don't eat it!). It flowers in June.



As its alternative name suggests this is widely found around Bath and is believed to have been introduced by the Romans. Ours is one of the very few areas it can be found other than around Bath. It was widely cultivated near Bath with its edible flower shoots being eaten as an asparagus like vegetable. It is nationally scarce and protected so please do not eat it.

Image: Wiki Commons / <http://www.plant-lore.com/3396/spiked-star-of-bethlehem/>

**Sulphur Clover** (*Trifolium ochroleucon*)

Flowers June to July



Formerly a common plant of pastures, meadows, green lanes, churchyards and roadside verges on the chalky boulder clays of East Anglia it is now confined to road verges in a few areas.

**Crested Cow Wheat** (*Melampyrum cristatum*)

Flowers from July – August



Cow-wheat seeds are transported by ants to new habitats. They have spiky glandular hairs at the base of the upper leaves which secrete nectar and tempt ants to open the capsule fruit to get at the ripe seeds. They are hemiparasites meaning that they can photosynthesise themselves but also extract nutrients from other plants.

Picture courtesy of Jouko Lehmuskallio, NatureGate from:

<http://www.luontoportti.com/suomi/en/kukkakasvit/crested-cow-wheat>