Portholme Meadow, a 333 year legacy

Floodplain Meadows Partnership, 15th May 2014
'the Axe and the Helse' (now Axe and Helve), Hardhill acres (now Hurdle Acres), the Castell Gore, Mylne Pitt (now Mill Pits), Curriers Holme, Great Bonest (now Great Bonurst), being parcels of meadow lying, in 1550, in the common meadow called Portholme.
“From these Castle hils... man may behold... they call Portsholme... in the spring time this may be truely said: The pleasant Spring faire floures doth yeeld, Of divers colours, in this field.
14th July 1661. (Lord's day). “.. in the evening my father and I walked round Portholme and viewed all the fields, which was very pleasant.

13th October 1662. “... and with my father took a melancholy walk to Portholme, seeing the country-maids milking their cows there, they being there now at grass...they come all home together in pomp with their milk, .. have musique before them.”

26th May 1664. “...thence to Sir R. Bernard, and there received ...in part of Piggot's L209 due to us, which L40 he pays for 7 roods of meadow in Portholme.”

24th May 1668. “...while I to my father, poor man, raining a little, and the waters all over Portholme and the meadows, so as no pleasure abroad.”
First mentioned in Racing Calendar 1773
James Radley (in the cockpit) & Will Moorhouse with an aircraft built in a shed on Portholme, 1911

1st flight in Bleriot monoplane 19th April 1910 James Radley
Number of flowers

19th April 2004
Large numbers:
European Golden Plover
Northern Lapwing
Eurasian Wigeon
Black-headed Gull and Black-tailed Godwit
Portholme Meadow,
Brampton Parish, History
and Natural History

“Right of Pasture, e.g. three sheep and five eighth of a sheep”
Thomas Miller Charity

‘Town Land’ bequeathed in a Will dated 1681
Hay is sold annually in lots on or around 15th June at a local hotel.
and aftermath grazing
at the same auction
Single Payment Scheme

Income from investments

Environmental Stewardship Agreement (Entry & Higher Level)
“Ten shillings to be paid to the Minister every year to preach a sermon on New Year's Day for ever”

the remainder "to be faithfully distributed in Easter Week to the poor".

Trustees:
Two appointed by PC plus the local Vicar
Delivered to:

- Day Centre
- Sheltered homes

- Grants to individuals and groups

- Easter and Christmas financial distribution – to the ‘poor’
Natural England SSSI Condition assessment: UNFAVOURABLE “site unit 3 because of the frequency of *Curled Dock* in the sward.”
Friends of Portholme

a community conservation initiative
Keep an eye on the meadow;
Discourage illegal activities and those which damage the meadow;
Encourage a better environment including controlling and picking litter;
Keeping local people informed about the meadow;
Organise events and help with conservation activities.
Guided walks:

- 14th June, Brampton Mill car park 14.30 part of the Wildlife Trust ‘Meadow Magic Magic weekend;
- 15th June, Brampton Mill car park 10.30 part of the Brampton NBN biodiversity project.

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