**Principles of Regenerative Agriculture**

 And what we are doing at Wookey Farm

We don’t use any artificial fertilisers or pesticides and hardly ever have to use wormers which can also kill off good bugs in the soil

Our mob grazing system helps soil by improving the root structure of plants and storing more carbon.

We currently don’t grow any crops so our soil is always covered with grass.

Integrate livestock

Animals fed predominantly on grass are better for the environment (less farting!) and are able to convert an abundant food source that is inedible to humans (grass) into a nutrient dense food (dairy and meat) – We love goats!

We also have some pigs which are almost impossible to raise entirely on grass but if outdoor reared, at least a proportion of their food is pasture

Livestock play an important role in soil health, acting as natural fertilisers. The mob grazing system means they eat one third, trample one third and leave one third. This helps store carbon, improve root structure and allows a longer recovery time between grazing.

We don’t cut our hedges every year – this helps feed the birds in winter and creates more homes for wildlife

We have fields of mixed grasses – and are hoping to plant some herbal leys in the future which will improve things above and below ground

We have created a wildlife pond in an area especially set aside for wildlife (unless the goats escape!)

No chemicals

We have planted about 2000 trees so far

Improve diversity and biodiversity

Keep soil covered

We currently don’t plough any fields. If we do need to reseed a field, we will do it with minimum tillage or direct drilling and on a long rotation basis so not every year

Minimise soil disturbance