

## WHASHTON PARISH – PRESS RELEASE – BIODIVERSITY PROGRAMME

Whashton Parish is a picturesque hamlet some three miles northwest of Richmond, situated in an area of outstanding natural beauty in Holmedale. The entrance to the centre of the Village has featured in the original television series of 'All Creatures Great and Small'.

The Parish Meeting Committee, together with a group of enthusiastic residents has undertaken a number of projects to enhance the biodiversity of the Parish.

To-date several hundred mixed bulbs have been planted throughout the Village to encourage pollinators, together with fruit trees and shrubs. Recently bird nesting boxes have been located on trees around the Village Green.

Sally Zaranko, Clerk to the Parish Meeting, said..... 'All of this activity will increase the beauty of our Village, which will be enjoyed by both residents and the numerous visitors that walk the many and varied paths through the surrounding delightful countryside, and also help to increase biodiversity and habitat regeneration. We are hoping that this is the start of a bigger Holmedale project to connect the villages with pollinator routes along footpaths in the Dale'.

Ian Mains, Chair of the Parish Meeting added... 'Although we are a small community, we're conscious of the need to protect our environment for future generations to enjoy.... we are extremely grateful for the generous support provided by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, through the Roger Stott Community Grants Programme'.

