

## Swan Croft Wildlife Meadow

Whittington and Fisherwick Environment Group (WFEG) were awarded £2,000 towards their Wildlife Meadow, Swan Croft, in the 2017-18 PEBBLE grant period. The award was match funded by the Parish Council who contributed £2,750 and fundraising from WFEG who contributed £1,620. The aim of the project was to clear a neglected and underused area of the Village of Whittington, with the view of creating a wildlife haven and an attractive, usable community space.

WFEG used a qualified contractor to remove the existing weeds and vegetation from the site and then cultivated the soil to improve its condition. The group used 20 volunteers, including children from local groups and two South Staffs Water employees, to spread compost, plant seeds, lay meadow turf, weed and water the new vegetation.

The residents of Whittington are already expressing their support and gratitude to the group for this project and their work. However, WFEG intend to further increase the biodiversity on the site by installing a pebble pond, bird and bat boxes, insect hotels and by sowing native wildflower seed in additional areas. The group will continue to work with youth organisations in the village and develop the community engagement in the site, making this area a well-loved area for community wellbeing and a space for nature to thrive.

The project:

- Used 40 tonnes of compost and 1.5kg of flower seed which was spread over 1000m<sup>2</sup>
- Has laid 80m<sup>2</sup> of quilt meadow turf
- Planted six fruit trees, 4 fruit bushes and several hundred bulbs including crocus, daffodil, cyclamen and anemone



Children volunteering with the compost spreading.



Wildflower meadow during July 2018.

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