

Beyton Environmental Group
2016 Annual Report to Beyton Parish Council

BOOP

A bit of a rollercoaster here at school!

The rabbits, Muntjac deer and squirrels did a lot of damage to the old trees; they have a real taste for Apple bark in the winter. We have improved the protection (again), and have pruned them where necessary. We now have roughly half and half old trees and new ones. We have planted native tree species down the bottom of the site to improve nesting habitat for summer migrants, such as Blackcap and Chiffchaff etc. The pond is full of Newts and the nettles are slowly being reduced.

OTP

This is looking good and stable, with Grass snakes present as well as many bird species and butterflies in season. We continue to improve the grass management, especially for butterflies, taking advice from SWT .

Churchyard

Fingers crossed that out 3 Swift boxes will have occupants this year. Last summer, 2 were used. The wall has a good crop of Spleenwort (which doesn't harm the mortar) and we continue the grass management to maximise flowering species.

The wider village

We were delighted at the Parish Council initiative to change the cutting regime of the stream across the Green. This should enable quite a lot of insects and amphibians to survive from year to year. It will be fascinating to see how this goes in the next few years, and we will try to monitor progress.

We have a total of 29 bird and bat boxes around the village. Last summer saw our first success in the Barn Owl Boxes, with 3 chicks successfully raised in one of them.

We are looking to improve the connectivity between areas within the village, and will consider new projects as appropriate.

Thank you again for your continued support for the work we do. We really appreciate it, and hope we can continue to work together for the future success of our wildlife.

Cathy Cass
Chair BEG