

## **Ideas for Wylam Wildlife**

**Discussion 26 September 2023**

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### **A Biodiversity Strategy for Wylam? (Listed as a Parish Council Action)**

What would this look like? We would need to assess what we have in terms of wildlife and habitats and evaluate it all. Then work out what more is needed and how to achieve it: what, where, and who to do it. It is a large piece of work and it is likely that Northumberland County may be doing a similar but broader brush exercise with their statutory Local Nature Recovery Strategy. Perhaps we need to wait and see how they are going to set about this.

Wylam does have a wealth of wildlife and habitats but could do with more variety, good management, less pollution and less environmental damage to habitats.

Wylam Parish Council own some of the green spaces. Northumberland County Council own more – particularly around the riverside toward Hagg Bank, the school and highway verges. Privately owned open land is the largest area with potential for helping wildlife. Domestic gardens are important but by far the largest area of unbuilt open land is farmland.

### **How could we achieve change ?**

Its not easy and perhaps the best bet would be small scale actions that are easy to implement and a focus on education.

### **Some ideas**

- 1** Wylam Library – speak to the librarian about a Climate Change section promoting books on nature conservation, wilding and climate change matters. (Hexham has a Climate Café once a month at the library.) Action – Hilary
- 2** Area South of the Allotments – explore how this area could be managed to help wildlife. More diverse vegetation cover. Fruit bushes. Action Samantha
- 3** Contact local youth groups Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Scouts, Explorers, First School. Making wildlife features – bee hotels, bird and bat boxes, planting, artwork. Action Samantha, Liz, John
- 4** Planting the perimeter at Charlie’s Corner with hedging and some aromatic / bee friendly, low growing shrubs. Action Liz

- 5 Planting containers and hanging baskets with bee-friendly flowers. Contact local businesses.
- 6 Establish a small tree nursery to grow on seedling trees. Action Liz
- 7 Whatsapp group to help communication. Action Liz
- 8 Contact Tyne Rivers Trust and clean water groups.