



## **Trees**

As reported in the June Newsletter we helped to install rain gardens and plant trees in the grounds of the Primary School under the Yorkshire Water's soak-it-up scheme. Not all the trees that were ordered were needed and Headteacher Hilary Cave offered the surplus trees to us. It's not the best time of year to plant trees so, thanks to Cllr Simon Tennant who offered us the use of allotment 4A on Lower Stamp Hill, we've planted them out on the allotment, ready to be transplanted later on in the winter to other sites in the village.



Some of the trees have also been planted out on two of the Newtown allotments courtesy of Sharon Hodgson and Jessica Penrose. Thanks to everyone who has helped to prepare the soil, plant out, carry water and weed.

## **Birds**



Some time ago following an application by Chris Acomb to the Wharfedale Naturalists Society we were awarded funds to buy two barn owl boxes. We have had barn owls in the village of course for many years but we need to do what we can further to increase their numbers. Chris has now found a good tree to house the first of the two boxes and with the permission of Judith Wallbank and the help of Tony Brady and Pete Barton this has now been installed. We're still discussing where to put the second box.

## **4Becks project**

A serious concern at the moment is the extent to which the sewage treatment plants at Ashlands in Ilkley spills raw sewage into the River Wharfe after rainfall. This is very relevant to us in Addingham as our sewage is pumped down to Ilkley for treatment. When surface water running off Ilkley and Addingham streets, driveways and roofs is added to the waste-water in the sewer network the Ashlands plant cannot cope and the waste-water is allowed to enter the Wharfe untreated. However, not all surface water in Addingham enters the sewer system. In the newer estates, including Big Meadow Drive, surface water is separated from the



waste-water and instead piped directly into Town Beck. Unfortunately, although this alleviates pressure on the sewer system it pollutes Town Beck and damages the habitat for fish in the beck. One partial solution to the problem is to slow the flow of surface water from the impermeable surfaces on the estate using a SuDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage System) approach. This includes for example the use of rainwater butts, rain planters, rain gardens and the installation of permeable surfaces. In our 4Becks project we are now looking for volunteer householders on the Big Meadow Drive estate to take part in a project to showcase this approach. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Rick Battarbee ([aeg@addingham.info](mailto:aeg@addingham.info), or 01943 839792) for further information.