

## Environment Group, January 2020

### Zero waste

Our zero waste working group, chaired by Dave Johnston, is continuing to coordinate initiatives in the village to reduce waste.

The group will be presenting its work at our Speaker's Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> February under the title "How green is our village, Part 3: reducing waste". At the meeting we will run a breakout session to ask the questions "what more can we do as a village community to increase our recycling rates?" and "how we can we increase awareness in the village about the importance of reducing waste?" We hope to have a full house!



One way to increase recycling is to take part in recycling schemes that go beyond the recycling programme of Bradford Council. This is especially relevant for items that are not routinely accepted for recycling by the Council, such as crisp packets and coffee pods. Consequently we are now taking part in the **TerraCycle Project** (<https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/>) where we collect items ourselves and TerraCycle arranges for them to be recycled.

The Scouts have already made a start with a collection bin for crisp packets outside the Scout Pavilion. At our next speaker meeting (January 23<sup>rd</sup>) we will begin collection of crisp packets (to pass on to the Scouts) and coffee pods. Once we have enough, we will arrange for them to be taken to a local collection point. Please note that not all types of coffee pod can be accepted. The scheme is for **Tassimo T DISCs, outer packaging, L'OR capsules, Kenco Eco Refill packs and coffee jar lids**. So far TerraCycle has helped to recycle 25 million pieces of these waste items and raised more than £300,000 for schools and charities in the UK.

**So please collect crisp packets and coffee pods from your friends and neighbours and bring them along to the next Speaker Meeting.** We will have a couple of cardboard boxes ready to put them in.

### Zero poison

We have been concerned for some time about the use of poisons in the village both to kill slugs and snails using slug pellets and to kill plants using the herbicide Roundup. We believe that slug pellets have been the cause of the death of at least two hedgehogs in the village last year and Roundup has been used by Bradford Council along paths and around trees to kill plants, including wildflowers. Given the need to increase wildflower populations and associated pollinator insects the use of Roundup in our Green Spaces is a perverse practice.



Consequently we asked Addingham Parish Council at their December meeting to consider and approve a herbicide free management policy for our Green Spaces. We were delighted when they voted unanimously to do so and our Parish Council Clerk, Jane Markham, has now written to Bradford Council accordingly, and Bradford has agreed. This is a good outcome. It should not only help our wildlife but also create a safer environment for people and pets.