

Notes for talk to Village meeting 2026 about the Flaxton Environment Group

Established in 2023

Arose from the Flaxton Village Plan – majority in favour of establishing group.

Aims:

1. Provide information and expertise to help maintain and enhance the village environment and wildlife.
2. Encourage active participation by villagers, including young people, in recording, learning about and conserving the natural environment.
3. Work with others to improve the management of common land and other natural areas, to enhance wildlife and environmental value.

Activities

Previous years

- 2024 survey of views from the village community
- Set up 'Flaxton Fungi' WhatsApp group – collaboration with Malcolm Greaves (fungi expert)
- Big Garden Birdwatch – co-ordinate, collect results and write report (January)
- Pond surveys in conjunction with the York Amphibian and Reptile Group
- Pond dipping event for children
- Organise occasional talks
 - conservation management of grassland and heath
 - Barn owls
 - **2026** Trees on the village green

Other events in 2026

- Early morning songbird walk (May)
- Young person's Nature Quiz (half term week)
- Tour of trees on the Common (June)
- Talk on Fungi by Malcolm Greaves (October)

Publicity

Events are advertised through the village WhatsApp Group and the Parish Council email group (thanks to Ian), also poster on village notice board.

All reports and information are held on the Parish Council website, including links to useful sources of information e.g. recycling

Future ideas

- Scything demonstration?
- Hedgehog project?
- Bat walk?
- Talk on dark skies?

We are always interested to hear ideas from the community on what they would like to see