

Wild Flower Garden - Abbey Road

I am delighted to share with you some excellent news. Several weeks ago we were approached by Karon Foxwell, a member of the public, who having seen Sarah Raven's programme on creating Wild Flower Gardens in Public places asked if she might plant one for us in Steyning. She met with me and we discussed the best place for a garden and decided on our Abbey Road open space. We selected an area of slightly higher land.

Karon worked extremely hard, attending a course to increase her knowledge, finding sponsors and persuading a gardener friend to come and clear the site and prepare the ground. Next they managed to borrow a digger. Great fun and anxiety trying to find a safe place to park the digger overnight! Fortunately one of the neighbours came to our rescue, not only allowing us to park overnight, but also providing cups of tea for the workers as they prepared the ground on a very wet Sunday morning. Myles working the digger and Karon's husband driving the spoil to its dumping ground.

Next the excitement of planting the seeds. For this activity we were assisted by a group of girls from the Towers Convent Junior School. Fortunately we managed to choose a small window of fine weather and were able to plant the seeds in the dry! The garden will be surrounded by wire fencing to keep animals off until the seeds have germinated. So What next? On a date which has still to be decided Sally Gunnell has promised to officially open the garden. We will announce this date as soon as it is known, so watch the Council website for pictures and further information.