

**NATURAL AXMOUTH  
REPORT TO ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 17 APRIL 2013**

This sub-group of the Parish Council, which includes members of the community, was formed in the summer of 2012. Its origins were in the East Devon AONB's Wildscapes project. This had suggesting increasing local bio-diversity through different ways of managing the churchyard, the playground, and the village brook, while raising public appreciation of our natural environment.

The group has focused on:

Preparing for a community survey of **the ecology of the brook** on 11 May which will result in recommendations to the parish council on a management regime which balances flood prevention with the encouragement of bio-diversity. The Environment Agency has been involved due to the flood risks of the large catchment area. The survey will be in partnership with Devon Wildlife Trust (Christina Bows), with advice from the Axe Vale and District Conservation Society.

**The phone box:** Sarah Williams is drawing together proposals which would see it used as an information point on our local publicly accessible green spaces (Coronation Corner, community woodland orchard, churchyard and playground). The proposals will be available for consultation at the village show. The parish council has agreed to fund repairs to the phone box, after which it will be repainted by volunteers.

We once again have a **tree warden**, shared by David and Judith Simpson.

A survey of **swifts, swallows and housemartins** is planned for the summer.

Crescy Cannan