

## Climate Action Addingham (CAA) - Zero Waste Week

**Climate Action Addingham (CAA)**, led by the Addingham Parish Council and Civic Society, comprises a range of Addingham groups and organisations, all pledged to do what they can to mitigate the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss.

March saw the first of four 2024 events, **Zero Waste Week**.

Between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of March the events and activities provided residents with opportunities to find out more about waste and what we can do about it.

**Stitching Sustainably** opened the week's events with a presentation by Charlotte Meek, founder of The Stitch Society and a workshop with Becky Davies-Downes, founder of the William & Tilda sewing business. These are both local businesses committed to building a sustainable economy.



Addingham Zero Waste  
and Recycling Week  
March 2024

Home Truths and Myths Busted.  
Ian Benson

**Recycling** The evening about fabrics and sustainability was followed by an eye-opening presentation by Addingham Environment Group member, Ian Benson. Ian, now retired, spent 40 years in the Waste and Environment Control Industry and had facts, information and tips at the ready.

**Refill Shop** Thursday saw our regular Pop-up Refill Shop in action during the Mount Hermon Coffee Pot and again on Friday at the Primary School ready for parents as they were collecting their children from school. This initiative is led by Civic Society and Environment Group volunteers who open the shop on a monthly basis, selling a carefully researched variety of eco-friendly laundry liquids, soaps etc.



**Addingham Primary School** Zero Waste Week coincided with Schools National Science Week and the school had a whole range of activities taking place throughout the week. Here are just a few.

**Food Waste** Year 1 borrowed a wormery and found out how much food waste can be converted into useful garden compost.

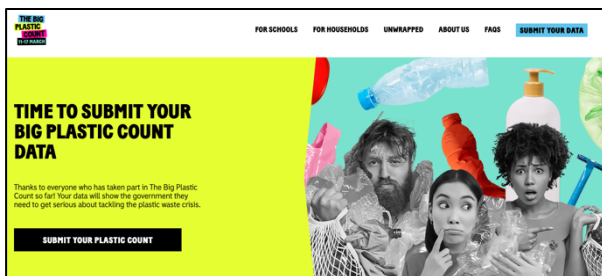
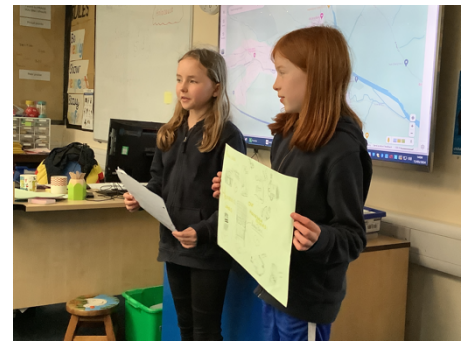
**Re-use** Year 4 turned old tee-shirts into bags and decorated them with second-hand buttons and beads. There's quite a lot of learning involved in sewing on a button for the first time!



**What happens to our waste?** Elise and Natalie, Recycling Advisors from Bradford Council Recycling Department, provided Year 5 with a fascinating presentation about what happens to waste when it leaves Addingham.

Year 6 followed this theme when they “became” Addingham Parish Council for the afternoon and were posed with a fictitious

scenario - a new rule – no waste may leave the village, what are you going to do about it...? You would be reassured to hear imaginative, thoughtful and knowledgeable solutions during their feedback sessions.



**The Big Plastic Count** Zero Waste Week was timed to coincide with the 2024 Big Plastic Count – all those who took part don't forget to submit your data.

**And there has to be a focus on Biodiversity loss - Native wild flower plug planting** Years 2 and 3 had a super, if muddy, day adding more native plants to their developing wild flower meadow in front of the school, thanks to the support of The Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and our Addingham volunteers.

And to underpin the Zero Waste theme the wildflower plug plants are grown locally in the Dales and the plastic pots and trays are returned to the grower for re-use.



**Many of the CAA groups have ongoing Zero Waste themes**, such as St Peter's Church long-running "pre-loved" stall at FOSPA teas, and the WI who, for example in February launched their push towards zero waste and reducing the use of plastic. Each month they hand out a recipe for making cleaning products as alternatives to commercial non-eco brands, often using ideas from the past and the days before plastics.

**Litter Pick** Zero Waste Week 2024 was rounded off with the annual Village Litter Pick, this year involving residents, Environment Group volunteers, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers, supported with the loan of equipment from Bradford Council and tea and biscuits courtesy of the Parish Council.



It seems ironic that CAA Zero Waste Week coincided with the confirmation of the closure of Golden Butts Recycling Centre in Ilkley. Whilst understanding that the Council has to balance its books this closure does seem to fly in the face of so many of the Council's own environmental policies as well as the efforts of residents.

But the good news is that there are now more local environmental groups than ever before and they are taking action.

### **Watch out for CAA's next themed weeks**

Wildlife Friendly Week	June 22 <sup>nd</sup> – 29 <sup>th</sup>
Sustainable Water Week	June 15 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup>
Zero Carbon Week September	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>

Gill Battarbee  
Chair, Addingham Civic Society  
25/03/24

Photographs Courtesy of Volunteers and Addingham Primary School