**Item 14 - Wild Verges Working Group**

**Hedge cover for recycling bins, Blackdyke Road**

One of the objectives of the management plan proposed for the recycling site verges is amenity improvement at one of the only three access roads to the village.

At the last WVWG meeting, it was suggested that, as part of this improvement, it would be good to plant a hedgerow to hide the line of recycling bins. We propose a semi-natural hedge of beech, holly and hawthorn which would either have 12-month leaf retention (beech) or be evergreen (holly) and which would have some spring blossom (hawthorn, perhaps blackthorn).

We would prefer to use a local supplier which would be marginally more expensive but which would reduce the transport involved. The cost from Weasdale Nursery at Kirkby Stephen for the supply of 50 green beech and 20 purples would be £345.00 and for 10 Hawthorn £14. Holly can be provided at a similar price. The whole at about £400.00.

Planting can be done by volunteer labour to keep costs down. The ideal time for planting would be mid-autumn.

The WVWG requests approval of the Council for this proposal.

Steve Porter

30 July 2021