**Key Issues** –
The key issue was to engage the local community to deliver a joint landscape design for public amenity areas and to provide additional benefits to the local community at little extra cost.

Four locations were identified where planting was required to mitigate a landscape impact or replace existing planting affected by construction.

There were many active community groups with aspirations that were identified as part of the communications planning. A joint group was established made up of representatives from:
- Todmorden in Bloom
- Incredible Edible Todmorden
- Todmorden Pride
- Todmorden Riverside Improvement Group
- Calderdale Borough Council

**Purpose of the project**
Provide flood protection to a 1:25 (4%) year standard to 658 houses.

**Description of the project**
Replacement and raising of existing walls approx 500m in length,
Removal of a bridge, a weir, and of stone outbuildings that form part of the curtilage of a listed building,
Construction of a new access road and retaining wall
Small extension of existing culvert, repairs and outlet flapping of existing culverts.
Lessons learnt

Through a site visit, discussions and options appraisal, plans were drawn up and agreed by the joint group.

The design included wildlife-friendly species, seasonal flowering interest in tourist-centred areas, scented species located near benches and fruit trees.

Edible Todmorden agreed to coordinate annual maintenance on some areas, freeing up our maintenance budget which we used to fund a local horticultural apprenticeship scheme.

Hard landscaping included a new footpath and the addition of a drainage sump and water pump for maintaining the planting areas.

Lessons learnt cont.

The culvert extension – the roof was turned into a raised public pocket garden and seating provided at the bus stop.

Through engagement with the local community, we were able to work with them to implement a landscape proposal which fitted with their aspirations and will be maintained by the local community.

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