

TICKHILL COMMUNITY ORCHARD

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NEWSLETTER



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The above photos show some of the volunteers and the land after day one of the tree planting.

From Green Space to a Growing Place....

One of the roles of Tickhill Town Council, is to improve the area by representing residents' views, maintaining local facilities, and supporting projects that enhance the community's wellbeing, environment, and services. Following its election in May 2025, one of this council's first projects was to create a community orchard on land transferred from the City of Doncaster Council via a section 106 agreement. To support this project, the council successfully applied for and secured a Community Orchard Grant from City of Doncaster Council, providing 45 fruit trees along with funding for the tools and equipment needed to plant and care for them as the orchard grows.

Tickhill's Community Orchard Takes Root...

After several years of legal proceedings, last year marked a major milestone for the community of Tickhill as Tickhill Town Council officially signed the legal documents to take ownership of the open green space tucked away between Scarborough Close and The Paddocks.

When the land was transferred, it had been neglected and was heavily overgrown, with a pond hidden beneath dense vegetation and no longer visible.

The final vision will be a welcoming community green space with an orchard and a pond teeming with wildlife. A biodiverse space where the community can get involved; strengthening community connections and promoting wellbeing through access to open green space.

Volunteer sessions will build skills in sustainable horticulture, habitat creation and conservation. A space where family and friends can meet, connect, reflect, and enjoy a truly special space right in the heart of Tickhill.

Planting The Trees

Community involvement is central to the project and although initially hampered by the weather, the community rallied round and on 7th & 8th March, an army of volunteers planted 40 fruit trees!



The postponed planting did mean we were able to tie in the planting with the **Covid Day of Reflection** on Sunday 8th March when we invited local MP Sally Jameson to plant a memorial Oak tree in

memory of those in our community who lost their lives to Covid-19. We will eventually be placing a memorial plaque by the tree.

Eventually we plan to work with the local primary schools, and other local organisations with the aim to provide educational opportunities by giving volunteer groups maintaining the open space hands-on learning about plants, ecosystems, and gardening skills while promoting teamwork and environmental awareness.

Working together also allows people to share knowledge, build teamwork skills, and increase awareness of sustainability and environmental protection.

The above photos show the volunteers on day two of planting and Sally Jameson MP with the Chair-Mayor of TTC planting the commemorative Oak tree

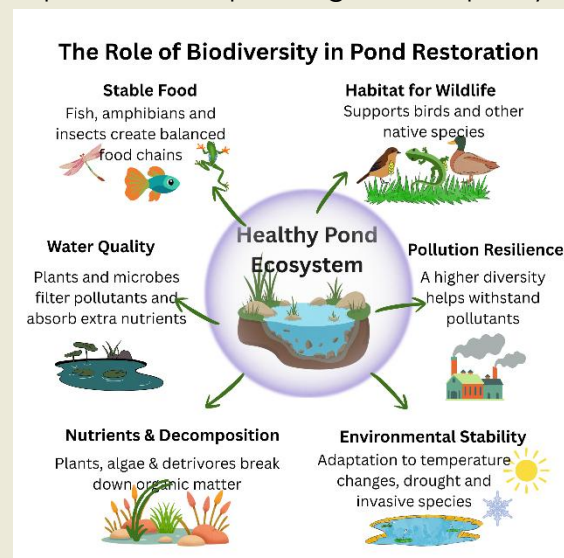
Pond Restoration



Photos of the neglected overgrown pond.

As part of our commitment to protecting and enhancing the site, some of the s106 monies will be used to carry out a professional survey of the pond to help identify what plant and animal species are currently living in and around the pond, as well as assess the overall health of the habitat.

Understanding the existing wildlife is an important first step to guide us on how the pond can be carefully restored and managed to improve biodiversity. This may include recommendations on habitat improvements, planting, water quality, and creating



better conditions for native wildlife such as amphibians, insects, and birds.

The Section 106 funding will allow us to ensure that any restoration work is based

on expert advice and helps the pond become a thriving habitat for local wildlife while continuing to benefit the community. The Community Orchard offers more than just fruit trees, it offers a community green space for everyone to enjoy.

To find out how you can get involved and to hear more about the work of Tickhill Town Council, please visit our website

www.tickhilltowncouncil.gov.uk

or sign up to our newsletters by emailing communications@tickhilltowncouncil.gov.uk