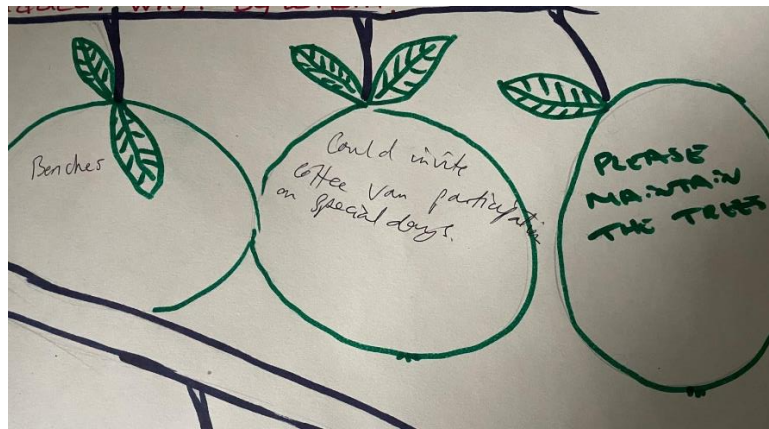




Attendee Feedback, Comments and Ideas from The Bothy, Norbury Park Community Orchard Planting Day Tuesday 10th December 2024



Prompt Questions

1. Who uses Norbury Park already? And what for?

- Dog walkers
- Horse riders
- Joggers
- Walkers (e.g., Mole Valley Ramblers, walking groups)
- Mountain bikers
- Dorking Mole Valley AC (training and social runs)

2. When it's an Orchard; who might use the space? For what?

- Local schools for practical wildlife projects (e.g., Great Bookham School, Polesden Lacey School, Eastwick School, St. Michael's Primary)
- Community groups for gardening, educational activities (e.g., Brownies, Cubs, Scouts, Duke of Edinburgh Award participants, WI groups)
- Charities (e.g., Rainbow Trust, Cherry Trees)
- Community gardening initiatives

3. What might be the barriers to using the space? Access ideas to overcome?

- Accessibility: Improve paths, provide marked parking (465 bus drop nearby)
- Awareness: Signage, publicity (e.g., Parish Council, WhatsApp group)
- Facilities: Shed for tools, benches, bin.
- Permissions: Ensure proper access and usage rights so it is clear what the site is for and who can use it for what.

4. What additional features could be added?

- Community Orchard signage
- Benches and bin
- Coffee van on special days
- Willow growing area (requested by Lorraine from Hedges and Hurdles)
- Shed to store tools for volunteers
- Improved access and facilities
- Insect and other wildlife refugia and features

5. Who or why by whom?

- Harvest by community groups (e.g., Leatherhead Youth Project)
- Utilisation by schools for educational purposes
- Community events (e.g., WI jam, baking, cooking)
- Market activities (e.g., Bookham County Market on Fridays)
- Support mental health through gardening (Talking Dorking)

Comments

- Mickleham and West Humble WhatsApp group: Can help with publicity and community support
- Parish Council: Can assist with permissions and funding
- Dorking Mole Valley AC, Mole Valley runners, joggers, mountain bikers: Regular users who can spread the word
- Schools and charities: Potential users for educational and community activities
- WI groups: Interested in gardening, baking, and market activities
- Talking Dorking: Mental health support through gardening tasks and activities

- Lorraine from Hedges and Hurdles: Interested in a willow growing area as currently buys in willow for workshops and projects.
- Query around why the area was not being used to plant woodland trees.
- Request for follow-up activities like pruning, wassail and apple pressing.



Claire Matthes

14th December 2024