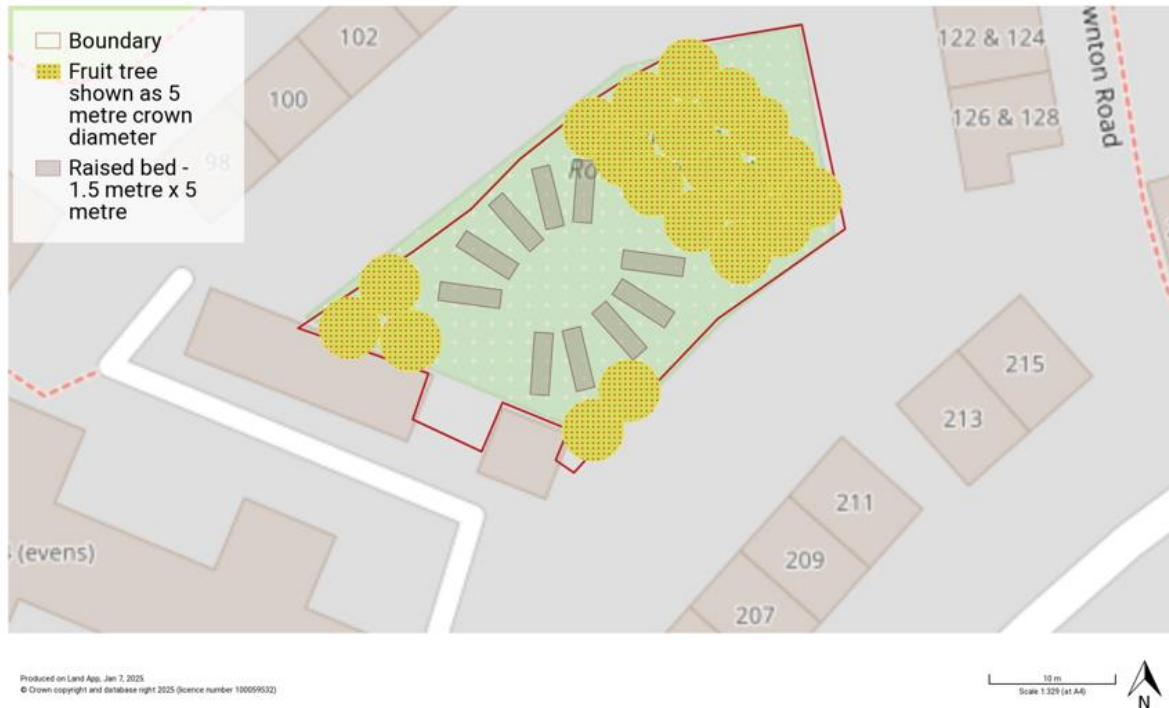


Allington Road Community Project

By Neil Pullen (Wiltshire Wildlife Trust)

Allington Back Land



I have attached a basic sketch based on the consultation undertaken and the information from Caroline. Based on a community garden orchard idea.

This maintains 10 raised beds arranged circularly. The beds are 1.5 metres x 5 metres in length as large beds with plenty of growing space. They could be smaller to reduce maintenance costs. They are arranged in circle so plenty of space for benches, paths etc.

I have also included 20 fruit trees. These are shown as a having a 5 metre diameter crown – but many fruit trees will not achieve this especially if on medium rootstock. I have placed 15 trees in a traditional orchard block.

There would be plenty of opportunities for additional habitats – bird and bat boxes, hedgehog piles, bug hotels etc.

I guess other items that would need to be decided would be:

Initial clearance of the site. When we first visited the site in 2023 we found some asbestos (in sheeting form) so it may be expensive and not something that volunteers could undertake.

The grant is designed to focus on tree planting, although as Caroline has mentioned some capital items can be claimed alongside to cover paths etc. But it may not cover everything. The focus would be on the basics – tree, raised beds and path. Additional funding may be required for other items.

Maintenance – A few raised beds and orchards would require relatively little maintenance but would certainly need maintenance to manage. This could be built into the grant. Could we also look to recruit “tree wardens” or similar to look after the site