What is a community orchard?

A community orchard is an area of land planted with fruit trees for the use of the community.

Who cares for the orchard?

Members of the community led by a management committee.

Where is the orchard?

The orchard is situated behind the green at Dunsden in Oxfordshire, some four miles north east of Reading.

What kind of fruit is planted in the orchard?

An enormous range! Everything from pears, plums, cherries, quinces and mulberries to a group of apples that tell the story of their cultivation, including several special varieties with local connections.

What is the purpose of a community orchard?

It is hoped that the orchard will become a focus for the community forging new friendships through people coming together to care for it and to harvest the fruit.

Is the orchard just for the people of Dunsden?

No, the orchard is for everyone who is interested, young or old, from Dunsden or not. Get involved and make new friends and learn about the long tradition of Oxfordshire fruit-growing.

How is it funded?

Eye & Dunsden Parish Council are providing use of land acquired from the Phillimore Estate. The parish council also gave an initial grant to help cover the cost of the trees, fencing, etc. Other grants have been applied for. The running costs of the orchard will also be covered by raising money within the community.

How can the money be raised in the community?

We are inviting members of the community to become members of the orchard by paying a small annual fee of £5 for individuals, or £10 for families. We also plan to hold fundraising events.

What do members get?

Members are invited to share in the harvest at the orchard. You will also receive regular news about the orchard as well as invitations to special events, such as Apple Day in October and our information days.

How can I belp some more?

Why not adopt-a-tree through our Tree Dedication Scheme? Choose a tree from our plan and for a modest donation of £45 and we will dedicate it with a name of your choosing. You will receive an attractive certificate to commemorate your donation which will tell the story of the fruit tree you have chosen.

If I dedicate a tree is it mine?

No. The tree still belongs to the community orchard but the tree remains dedicated for its life and you are free to visit it whenever you like.

How else can I take part?

Regular working parties are being organised to create and maintain the orchard. All are welcome at these fun events.

How can I find out more?

Please telephone David Woodward on 0118 969 3633 if you would like to know more. You may wish to look at http://orchard.blogspirit.com where you will find a links to Common Ground which promotes community orchards across the country. Whilst visiting the orchard site you may also wish to sign-up for our email newsletter.

Standing order mandate

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ADDRESS	
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Please set up an annual membership standing	order:
☐ £5 individual ☐ £10 family ☐ other	r æ
in favour of Dunsden Community Orchard	
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Southway, Skelmersdale wn8 6wr.	
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Tree dedication application	ļ
I/we wish to adopt a tree at the orchard and enc cheque for £45 payable to Dunsden Communit	
TREE NAME	
(leave blank and we will make a selection for yo	u)
DEDICATEE(S)	
YOUR NAME(S)	
YOUR NAME(S) ADDRESS	

Please complete & return to: Hon. Treasurer c/o Long Gardens, Sonning Eye, Reading RG4 6TR

