Ancaster Parish Council Biodiversity Project in the Community Orchard

The Community Orchard in Ancaster is located adjacent to the Parish Cemetery on Church Lane and next to Moor Closes Nature Reserve. The Biodiversity Project, started in early 2025 with support from South Kesteven District Council, continues the development of this community area, aiming to make it more attractive to wildlife and interesting for visitors.



This is the area before the Biodiversity Project was started. The area now includes a raised bed full of bee-friendly plants, a Rowan tree that provides both spring flowers and autumn berries and a length of dead hedge with a heap of logs which will provide a safe haven for many insects and small mammal.

This photo shows the raised bed, built and filled with compost and topsoil, stakes that have been put in place ready to be filled with dead hedging materials, and the newly planted Rowan tree.





Insect home on wall of cemetery hut.

Dead hedging materials have been woven in between the stakes. Several logs, with holes of varying sizes drilled, have also been added to provide hibernation protection for insects, including solitary bees





The raised bed with the initial planting completed. These plants will grow during spring and summer to provide a colourful display that will attract bees, hover flies and butterflies. The early flowering cowslips (at the far end) are already attracting solitary bees.



If you have any questions about the Community Orchard and its Biodiversity area, or would like to be involved as a volunteer, please contact Denise Gascoyne, Parish Clerk, 82 Ermine Street Ancaster NG32 3QP, Tel: 01400 230745 email: denise.gascoyne@ancasterpc.org

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