

Fallin Community Gardening



Working in collaboration with local & national partners, Fallin Community Voice (FCV) want to develop a community gardening project that establishes a resilient, regenerative permaculture garden and edible forest that thrives in our increasingly unpredictable climate to provide food for us and habitats for nature. It will improve local biodiversity, create new green jobs and up-skill residents in the fields of climate action, nature restoration, food security and community resilience.



This project aims to bring people together and create new, better quality, wheelchair accessible natural spaces, regenerating a natural environment that has been replaced by ex-mining derelict land. This space will include a core central food production hub and an educational area, with a range of activities and programmes designed in partnership with residents and other stakeholders, raising awareness of “nature and climate” issues and inspiring opportunities to address other climate and nature friendly priorities in and around the community. It will establish systems of producing food that are less damaging to nature, improve self-sufficiency and reduce our community's food miles.



Sited next to Wester Moss Nature Reserve (a rare peat bog with protected SSSI status and range of edible plants including cranberries), our edible forest and permaculture garden will include spaces that compliment the reserve, extending the habitat of resident and migratory wildlife.



To maximise community participation, the project will span several other sites across the village including the miners' memorial dedicated to those who lost their lives to the industry and the open air museum memorial garden adjacent to the main site. The planters at these have fallen into disrepair. Our project will include restoration of these and establishment of new planters in key areas of the village, centred around attractive, hardy, low maintenance perennials that are edible or wildlife-friendly.



A full time project coordinator will work on:

- overseeing set up and running of the project
- recruiting and coordinating volunteers to nurture the garden space
- liaising with partner organisations to develop relevant activities and community engagement programmes
- encouraging the community to get involved/make use of the gardens
- producing monitoring and evaluation reports, to assess the success of the project and determine next steps.



Monitoring will include biodiversity assessments (including baseline assessment), carbon footprint assessment, food production levels, food usage levels, community involvement and changes in local attitudes to the environment and climate action – and aim to capture any unintended outcomes such as social prescribing through GPs.

Funds will be allocated to preparation of land including building of raised beds, rabbit & deer proof fencing in some areas, mains water connection, installation of secure storage shed and large polytunnel. Plus purchase of tools and initial round of plants, seeds, topsoil, compost & compost bins.



Almost all the land identified for the project is council owned (except the Church Hall land, which we have permission to use) and we have permission in principle from the Council to use as described (subject to formal planning application).



Partners helping us deliver include:

- **Strathcarron Hospice**, providing community development support and links with other relevant local projects;
- **Stirling Council**, have agreed in principal (subject to more detailed planning) to lease us land
- **Fallin Parish Church** agreed to provide land, rally volunteers & provide indoor community space for volunteers to meet
- **Fruit Forest Garden**, Fife, will provide



expert training for volunteers on forest garden development and provide edible forest garden plants

- **Butterfly Conservation** will incorporate us into their Wild Spaces Stirling Project, supporting us to plant nature-friendly trees & flowers

- **Transition Stirling** agreed to provide tools & equipment for initial build of garden & connect us with eco gardening experts to help train our volunteers in some gardening basics

- **Tullibody Community Garden**, Clackmannanshire are mentoring our volunteers and have agreed to share plants/seeds

- **Prudential Insurance** have committed volunteers to help build the garden's raised beds, install fences etc as part of their CSR

- **Inspiring Communities**, acting as a bridge connecting our gardening project with the local primary school teachers & students, where they had already incorporated gardening into the curriculum, but the school is winding down due to lack of resource

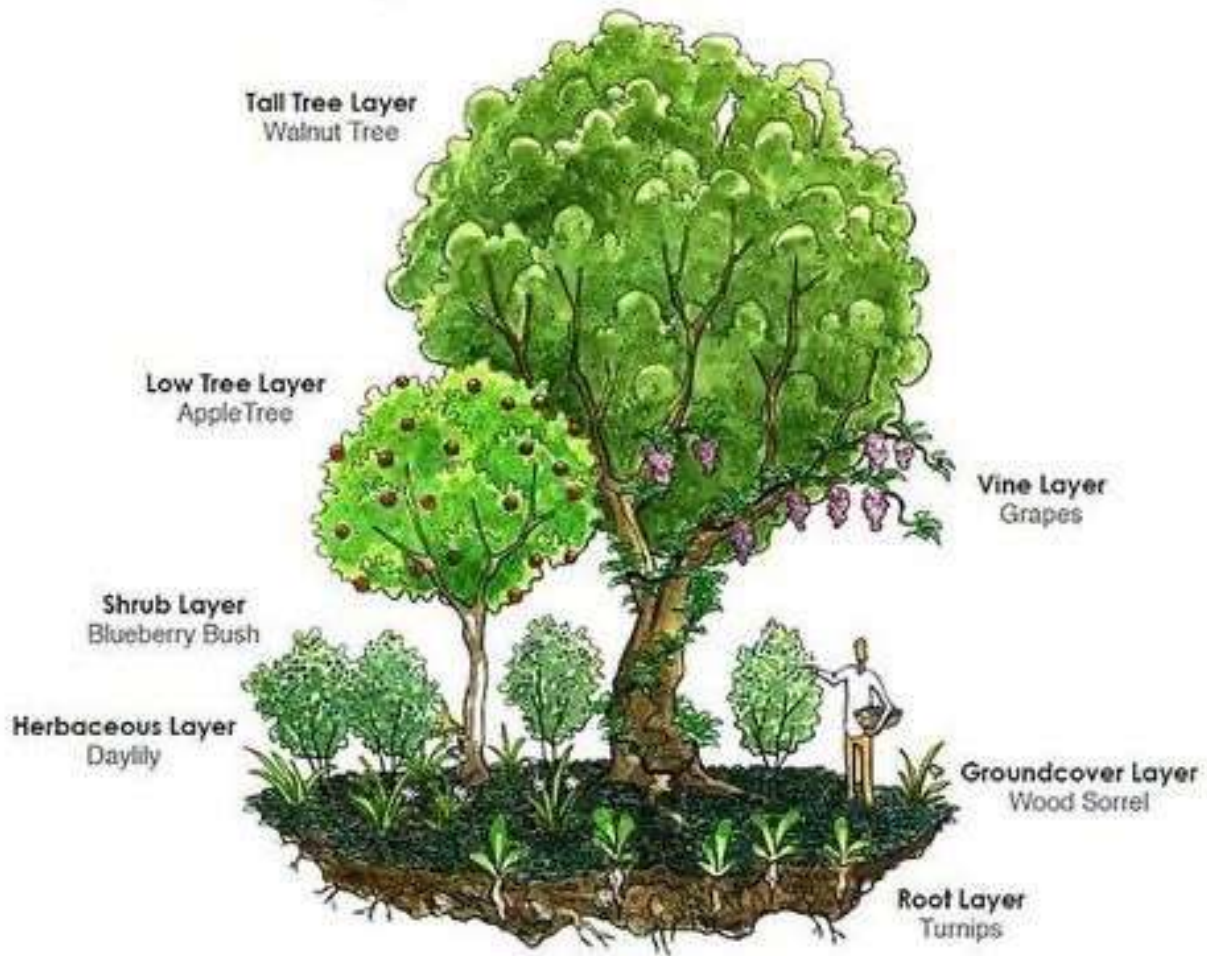
- **Community Council** will provide volunteer hours and links to local government support

Braehead Community Garden and Inner Forth Landscape Initiative have also been contacted.

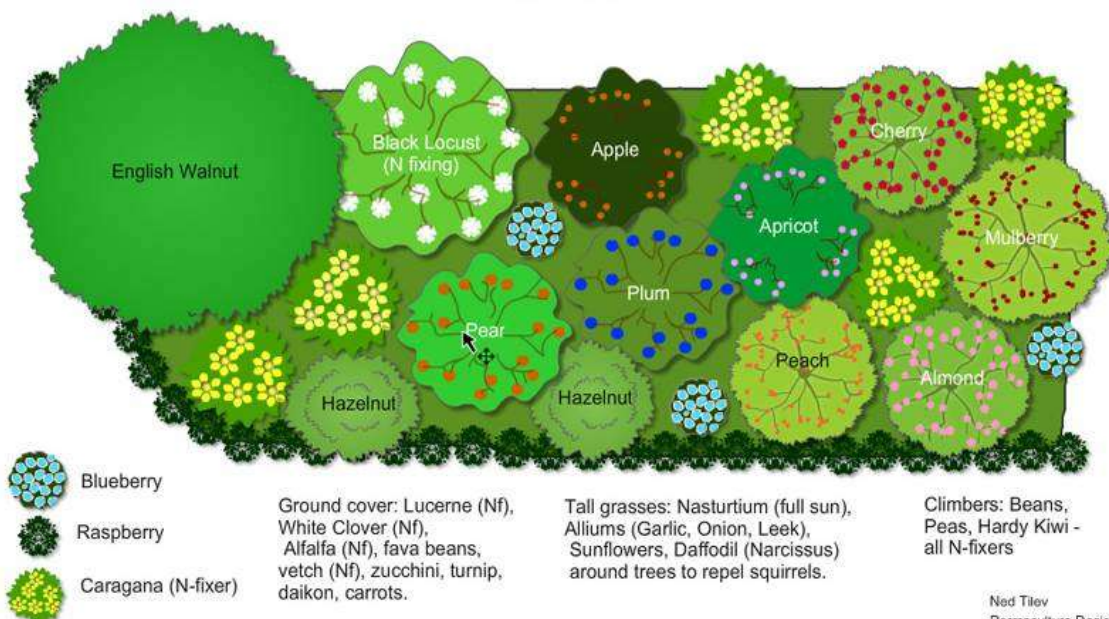
Find out more about the fund:

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/climate-action-fund-programme>

Layers of a Forest Garden



Paul Kearsley 2014



Ned Tilley
Permaculture Designer