



The Tree and Bee Corridor

Eastleigh Borough Council's Local Area Committee (BIFOHH) working in partnership with Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath Parish Councils

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Treescapes



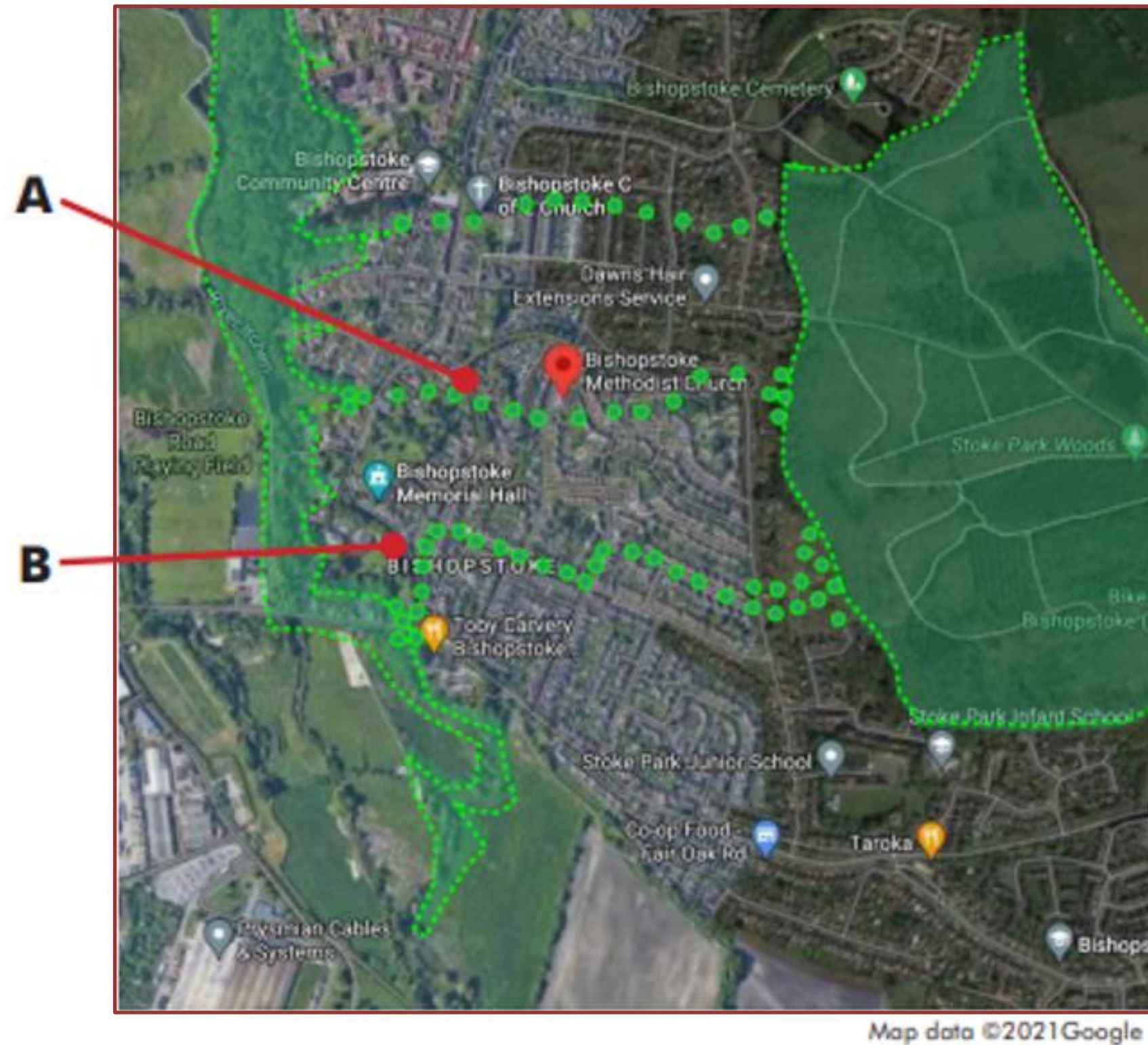
WELCOME TO THE PROJECT



- The Tree and Bee Corridor aims to connect existing areas of woodland and the biodiversity they contain by creating a patchwork of living stepping stones through the landscape
- This patchwork allows the movement, predominantly of insects, birds and mammals, between favourable areas of habitat by providing 'service stations' for food and shelter along the way
- The planting sites comprise road side verges to create a linear corridor; open spaces within residential areas, parks and cemeteries and green space in proposed development sites
- The 'stepping stones' can take different forms, varying from a stacked planter in a shopping area, trees growing along a roadside with an understorey of wildflowers, to an edible forest or tree gardens within residential areas



Map illustrating the corridor concept

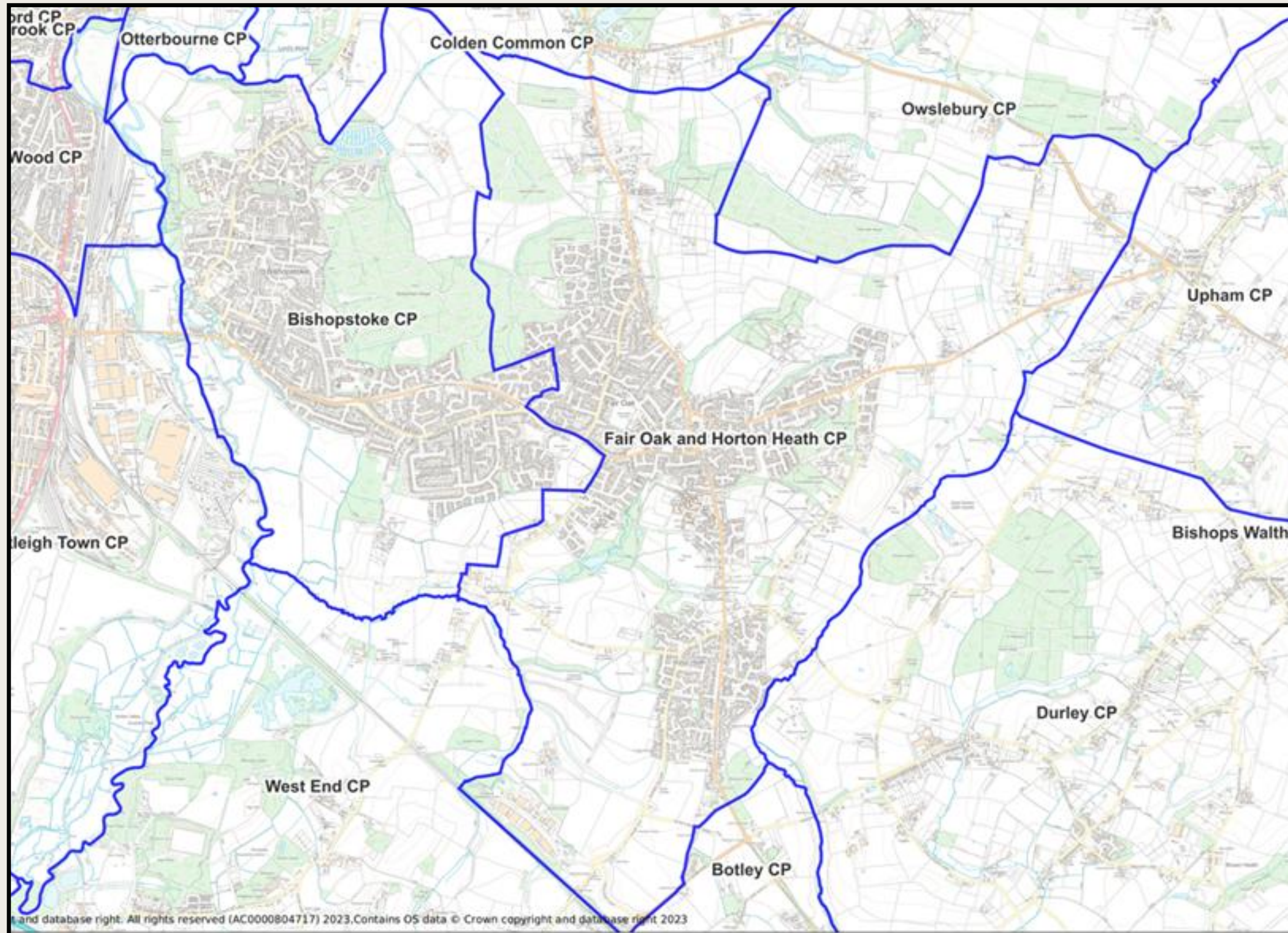


A - The corridors will comprise a series of planting sites which will be opportunistic, occupying space where it is available. Examples include redundant green spaces in residential areas, allotments and parks. Collectively the corridors will form a network.

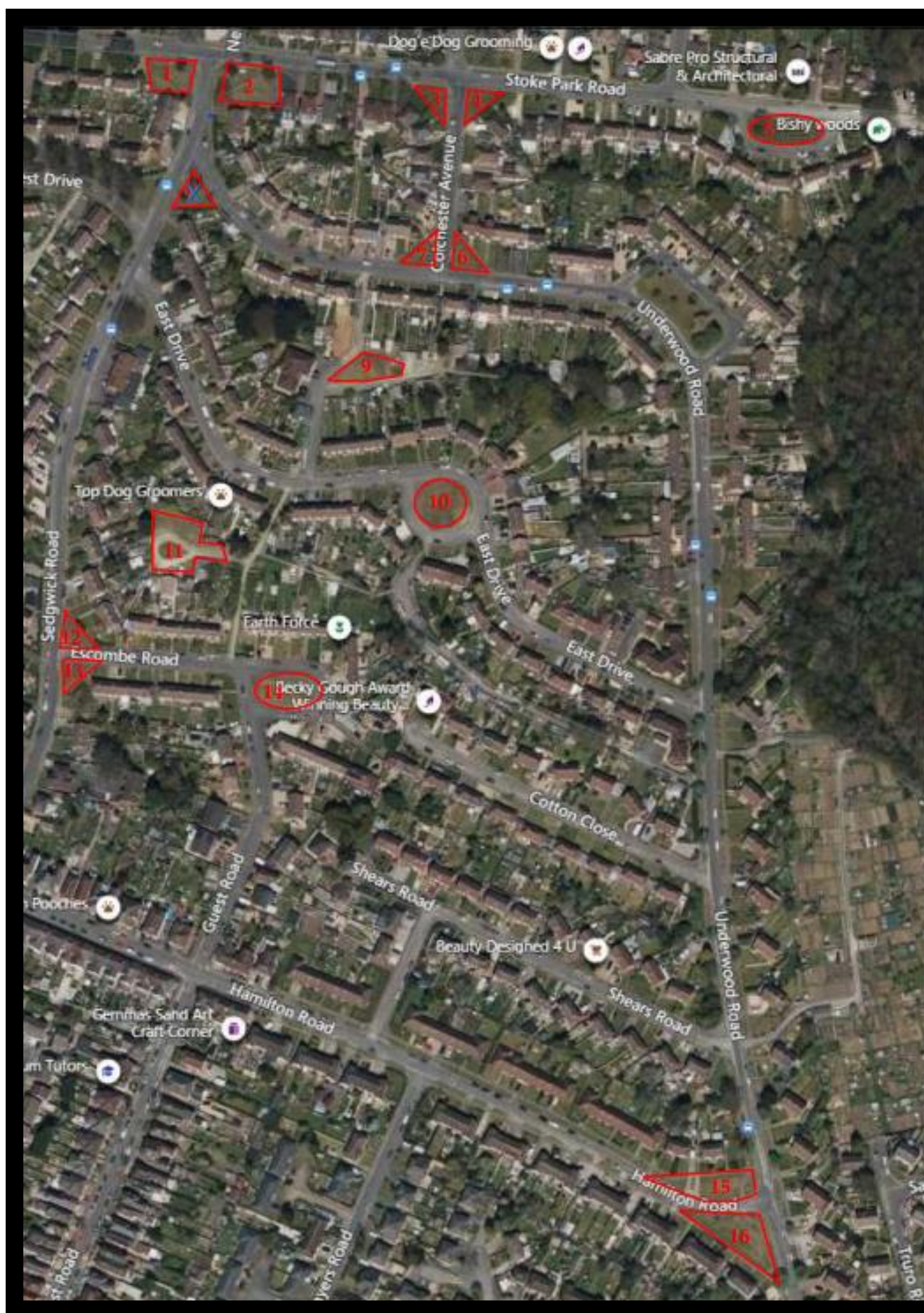
B – Existing Corridors in the landscape are also potential planting sites such as along footpaths, roads, cycle paths and rivers.

- Existing woodland
- Notional planting sites which would form a corridor to link existing areas of woodland

Currently, we have planting sites in Bishopstoke, Fair Oak and Horton Heath, which we are increasing to extend the Corridor and develop it into a network



The sites we have already planted in Bishopstoke:



Site	Location
1+ 2	Stoke Park Rd/ Sedgewick Rd
3 + 4	Stoke Park Rd/ Colchester Avenue
5	Stoke Park Rd/ Stoke Park Woods
6 + 7	Colchester Avenue/ Underwood Road
8	Rejected as already planted
9	East Drive/ Underwood Rd
10	East Drive 1
11	East Drive 2
12 + 13	Escombe Rd/Sedgewick Rd
14	Escombe Rd/ Guest Rd
15+16	HamiltonRoad/ Underwood Road

Expanding the Tree and Bee Corridor into the wider landscape to create a network

We are now identifying and planting sites on Council and Parish owned land within the Parishes of Fair Oak and Horton Heath and Bishopstoke incorporating sites such as:

School grounds

Roundabouts

Allotments

Pocket woodlands

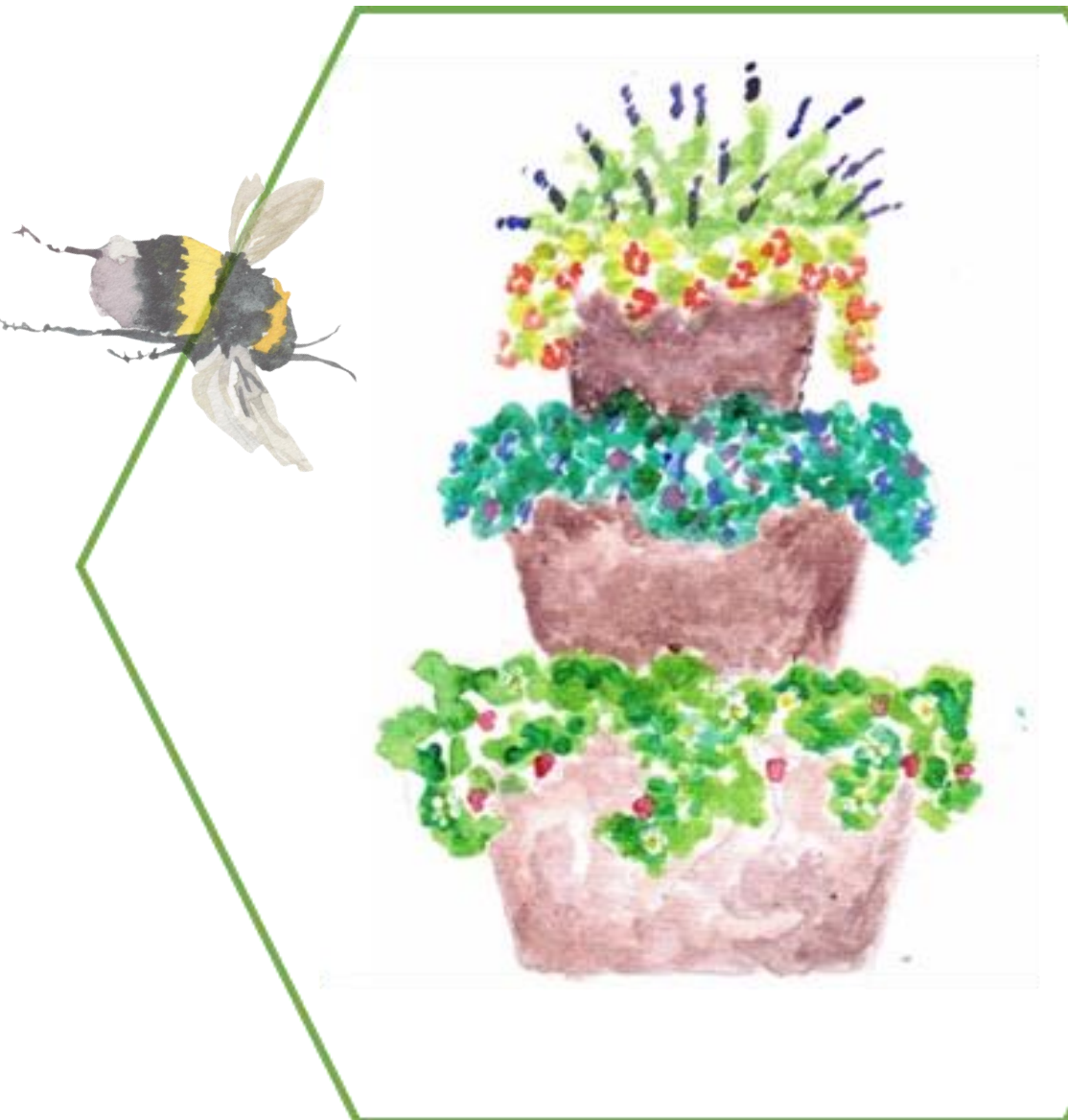
Community gardens within new housing developments with the use of funding from developers

Reinstating and bolstering existing hedgerows with native edible species

Mapping and incorporating veteran trees as biodiversity hotspots and sources of local seed

Promoting natural regeneration

Here are examples of how the 'stepping stones' can be planted to create the Tree and Bee Corridor



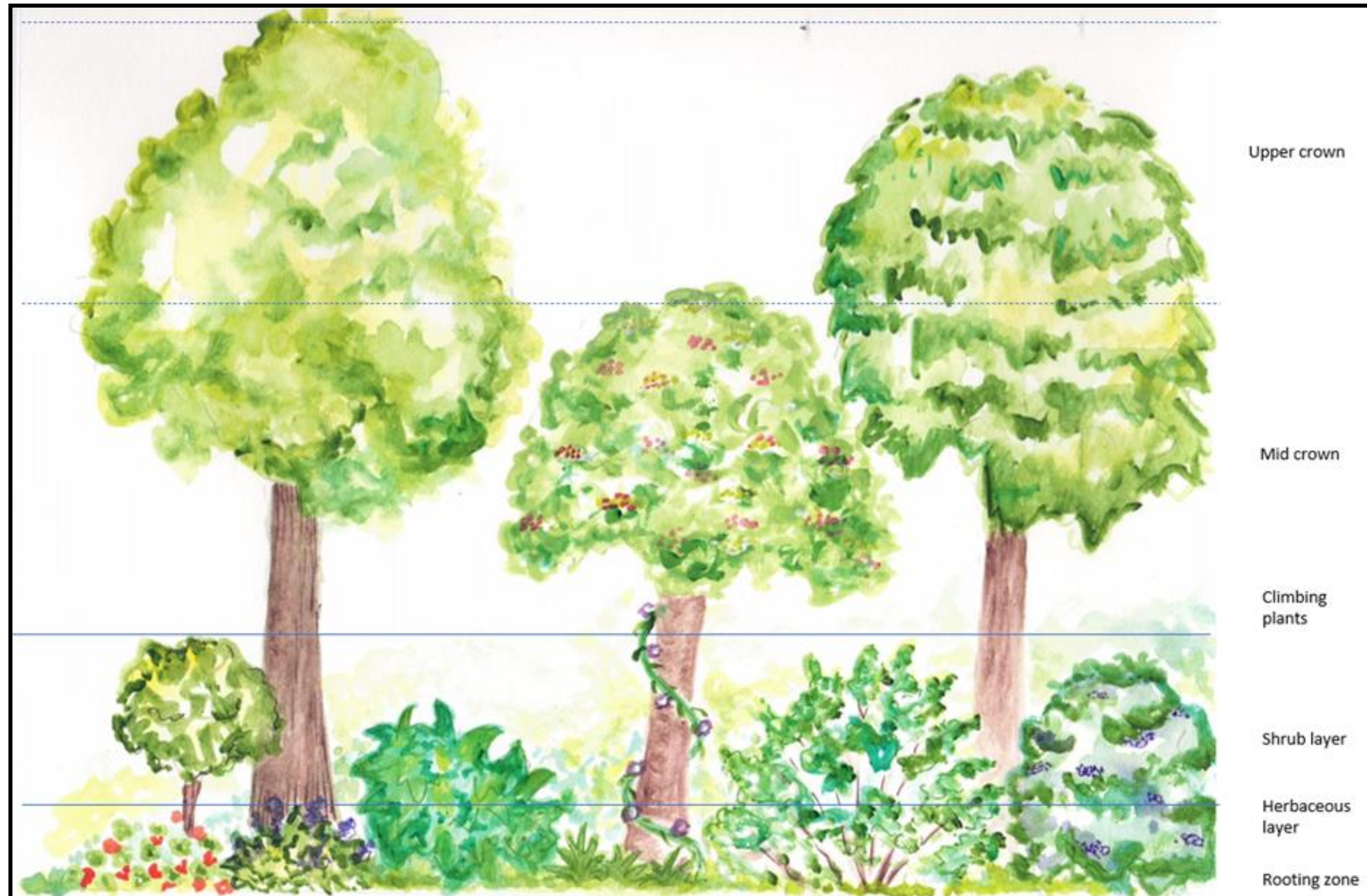
Planter with edible pollinator plants

Tree with underplanting of edibles or pollinator plants

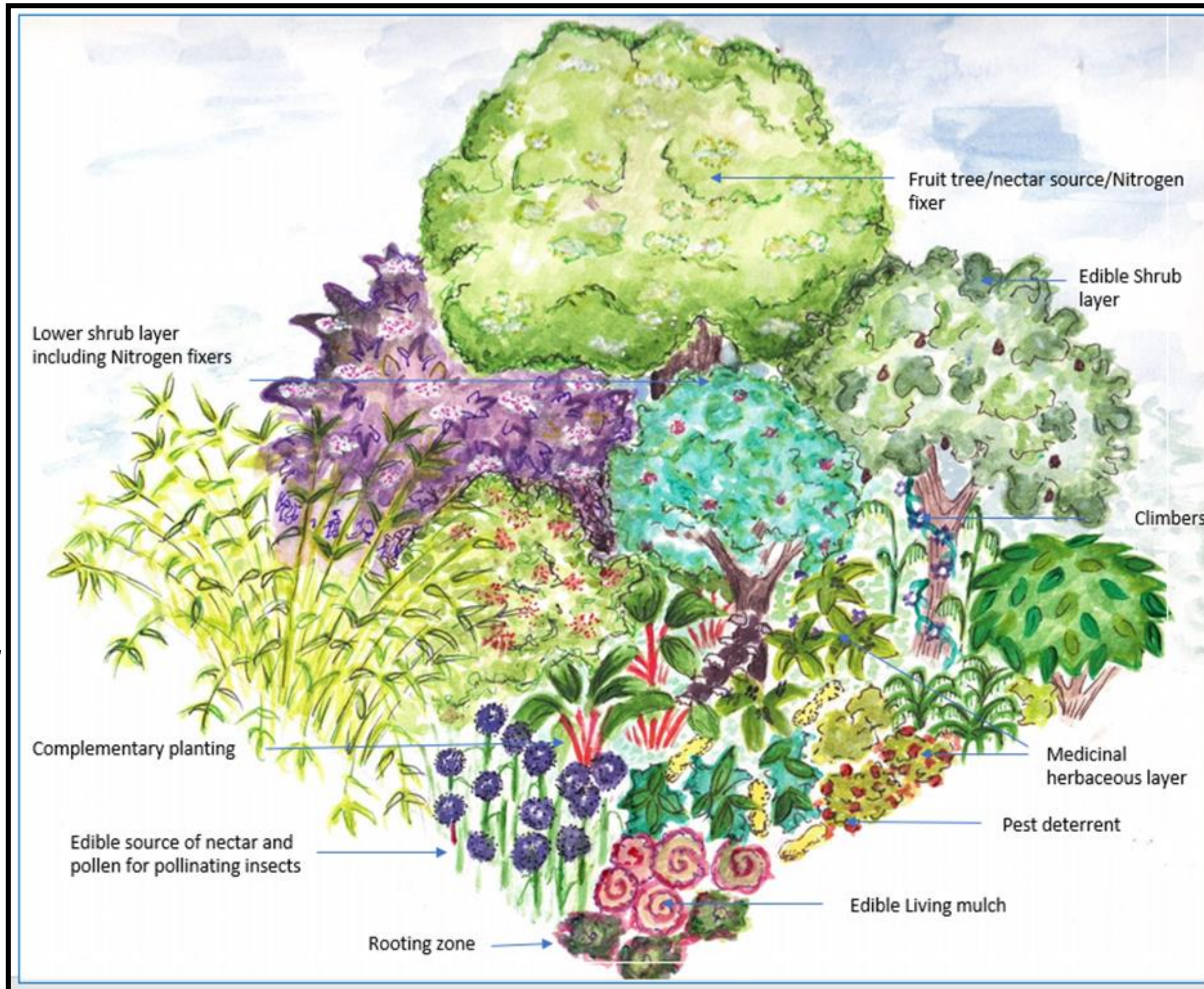


A forest garden system

The **forest garden, or tree garden** has the same structure as our native woodland with an upper and lower crown, shrub and herbaceous layer, but we will plant trees which produce fruit and nuts such as hazel. Climbers bind the layers together.



Examples of what we can grow in the Forest Garden



Shrub layer

Cob nut
Elder
Hazel
Hibiscus
Tayberry
Black currant

Herbaceous layer

Globe artichoke
Herbs
Edible flowers
Salad

Upper/lower canopy

Apple
Asian pear
Cherry
Damson
June berry
Pear
Quince

Climbers

Hardy kiwi
Blue passion flower
Thornless bramble
Grape

Rooting zone

Rooting veg
Artichoke
Garlic
Onion

Below is a list of the potential trees, shrubs, herbs and edible flowers we could plant within a forest garden on your doorstep. This is for you and your community to choose what you would like to grow:

Quantities will depend on the size of the planting site, but you might be surprised how much we can fit into a forest garden!



Trees: Bay leaf, cooking and eating apple, crab apple, chestnut, cherry, damson, elder, hazel, June berry, pear, Victoria plum, quince

Shrubs: Blackcurrant, cobnut, black elder, gooseberry, honeyberry, logan berry, raspberry, red currant, tayberry

Plants: Herbs (chive, mint, lemon balm, lavender, marjoram, thyme, purple sage), bronze fennel

Vegetables: Asparagus, courgette, green beans, broccoli, cauliflower, kale, marrow, root veg such as beetroot, carrots, globe artichoke and parsnip, pumpkin, peas, salads, spinach

Edible flowers: Borage, cornflower, courgette, daisy, day lily, freesia, elder, forget-me-not, hibiscus, hollyhock, lavender, marigold, mint, primrose, nasturtium, pea, pinks (Dianthus, carnation), rose, runner bean, sunflower, viola

Climbers: Chocolate vine, kiwi, grape, passion flower, runner bean, thornless bramble

Plant screening

The forest garden is a finely tuned system of plants which are carefully selected for their compatibility.

Plants are also screened for their invasive potential and for this reason some are avoided such as hop and some species of bamboo. We therefore ask that you don't put plants from your garden into the forest gardens without checking with us first.

Plant risk assessment

Some plants may have poisonous parts such as foxglove and honeysuckle and for this reason they will not be included in the planting mix.

How will the Tree and Bee Corridor add value to the local landscape?

- Tree planting helps climatic regulation - providing shade in summer, intercepting rainfall and reducing run off, reducing flood risk
- Biodiversity - more habitat niches, pollinator plants and no chemicals
 - Improves social cohesion and deeper community relations through a shared task
 - Calms eco-anxiety through positive action
 - Addresses food insecurity
 - Research shows that contact with, and emersion in nature improves our mental health



Questions and Answers

What are the benefits to local residents?

Residents living close to the forest or tree gardens will benefit from locally grown, organic food and will have the opportunity to get involved with the management of the gardens, bringing them closer to nature and immersing them in the physical health and psychological benefits that are associated with gardening.

What are your views?

As a resident living within easy reach of a forest garden planting site, we would love to hear your views to make sure the forest gardens are tailored to your needs. For example, would you like to include cooking apples in the garden, or quince? Would you like to have both black and red currant bushes available, tayberry or loganberry?

We will provide information and guidance on how to use the produce from the garden – such as sharing delicious recipes and learning techniques of food preparation like pickling and fermenting! You may also have some recipes and tips you would also like to share.



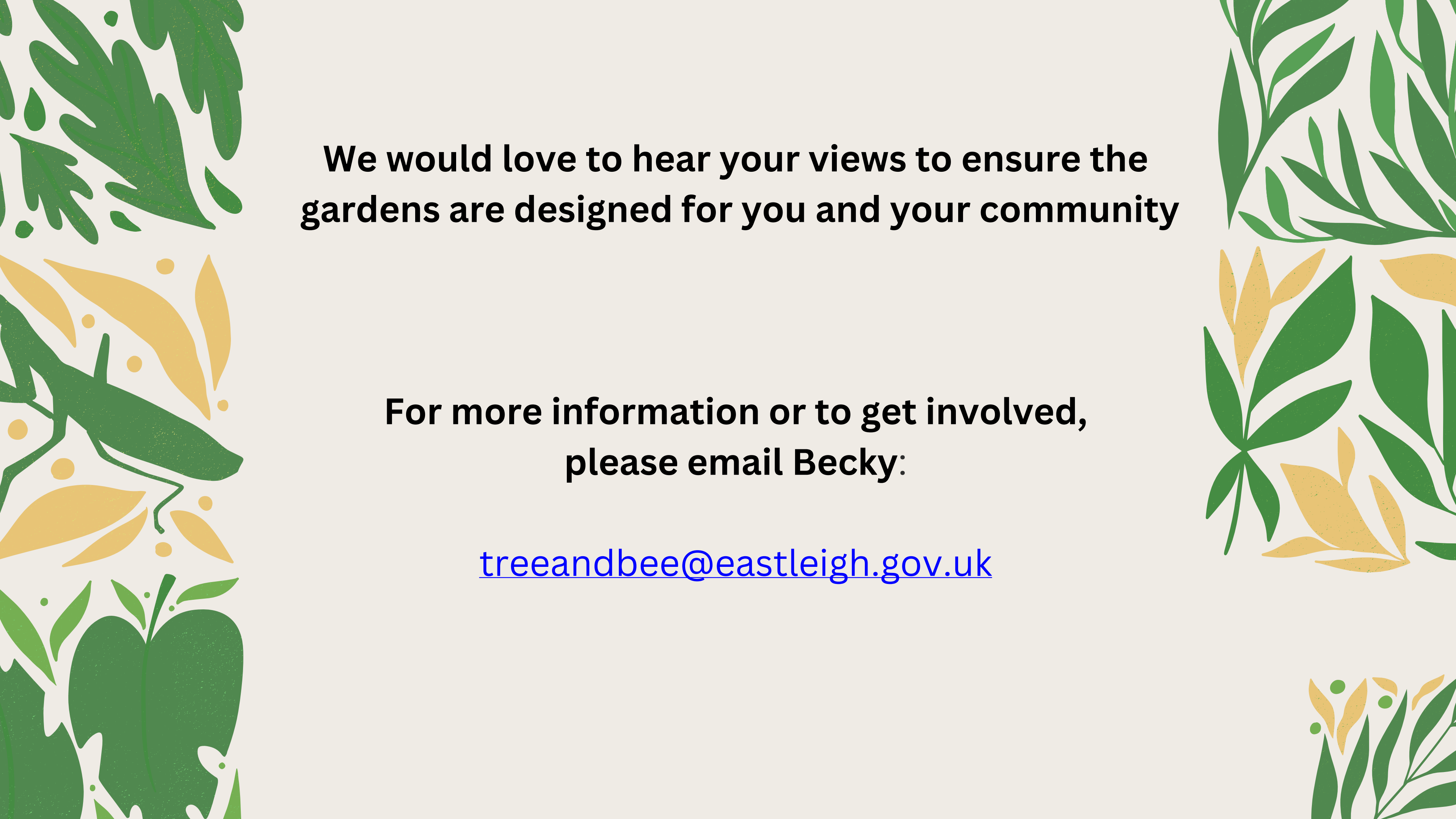
Are you interested in helping to look after the gardens and enjoy the bounty they will provide?

We are looking for volunteers to help with planting, watering and a spot of weeding in return for picking fruit, herbs and other edibles to enjoy yourself. You might also be interested in planting a mini forest garden in your own front garden?

Alternatively, you may like to adopt a tree for yourself or on behalf of someone else?

We would like to invite you to adopt a tree, either for yourself, as a gift or in memory of someone else. There will be no cost to you but, in return, we would ask you to look after the tree and take care of it during times of drought for example, to make sure it is appropriately watered and remains in good condition. We are here to help you and will provide expert advice if any of the forest garden plants need attention or replacing.



The page features decorative floral patterns on the left and right sides. The left side has a vertical strip of green and yellow leaves and stems. The right side has a vertical strip of green and yellow leaves and stems, with a smaller, similar pattern at the bottom right corner. The central text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

We would love to hear your views to ensure the gardens are designed for you and your community

**For more information or to get involved,
please email Becky:**

treeandbee@eastleigh.gov.uk