

South Street – A Community Orchard

The vacant plot in South Street was an eyesore and had had a variety of projects put forward for it over the years. Our aim was to create a Community Orchard with a wild flower meadow which required minimal maintenance – cutting the grass and removing it, and pruning of the trees once a year. We raised £6355 for the orchard from Milnathort Community Council, the Kinross-shire Fund, Forestry Commission and P&K Quality of Life Trust, as well as money from Milnathort in Bloom. The site was cleared in October with the access ramp and new boundary fence installed at the same time. The apple trees – all old Scottish varieties, were purchased at this time with some delivered in December and the remainder at the end of February.

In early March, ourselves and the children from Milnathort Primary School planted the trees in the orchard – with the adults doing the digging and the children the planting. After the trees were in the wildflower seeds were mixed with sawdust and the children scattered this across the site. Two more trees were added in April – a crab apple and a plum. A small fence was erected around the rear of the bus stop and an information board was installed in June.