

Geddington Brickyard Garden (GBG) – Progress from Jan 2014 to May 2014



These pictures show the GBG site in January 2014. This site, on land owned by Boughton Estate, has a history going back over 100 years when it was ‘The Brickyard’, manufacturing bricks from local clay that were used to build Geddington cottages such as 31/33 Wood Street. Thereafter the site became a cow-yard (when the barns were built) and later a local construction company (GAME) storage site. In late 2013, the site became vacant and fell into great disrepair. Lynette Litman, inspired by Gez Hopkins of GAME Construction, submitted a proposal to Chris Sparrow, then Boughton Estate Manager, that the derelict site be taken on as a wild-life friendly community garden for the benefit of Geddington community.

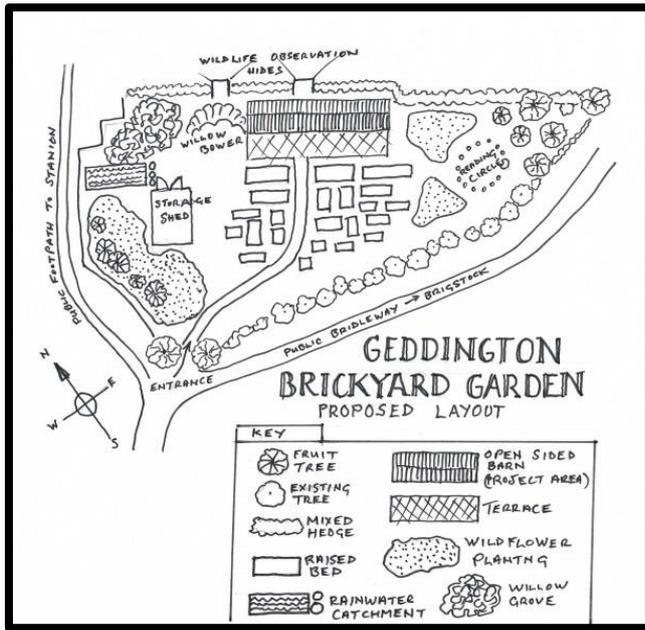
Amazingly (to Lynette), Chris supported the idea and agreed to grant an Access Licence for £1/year + a start-up fund of £1000. Thus began our GBG project.

Shortly afterwards, Ian Kelman joined Lynette to push the project forward. Happily, then Brenda McCraith joined us, taking on project admin and finance... and then we were three!



Feb to May 2014 was a time of establishing purpose, principles and aims. Ian designed our logo and designed a proposed layout for the community garden while Brenda took on the brunt of ‘legal entity’ research. We wanted the community garden to be established as a project that would continue for generations to come

At the time, we had no idea whether our local community would be interested to support us. It was a ‘leap into the unknown’... but worth the effort as it seemed at the time that Geddington was fast becoming increasingly ‘built in and around’ and this was a site worth preserving so that our younger generation, in particular (being our future) could still comfortably explore the ‘great outdoors’ and develop a positive interest in our environment.!



By May 2014, we decided on the name ‘Geddington Brickyard Garden’ and Amanda McCormick (local IT designer of <http://www.mccormickcreative.co.uk>) helped to design our GBG brochure which contained our aims and aspirations.

Our GBG brochure was distributed as an insert in The Newsletter, Summer 2014 issue to see whether our GBG project had the support of our local community which we recognised as being **FUNDAMENTAL** to our project’s success. After all, you can’t have a community garden unless our community wants and supports such a venture... and, at the time, we had no idea whether this was the case!



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Happily, we had lots of positive response from our village community and so began the GBG project...