



Feed Leeds Minutes: September 20th 2018

Further North

Apologies and Minutes

Present: **Tom Bliss** (Unis and Parks Forum; Chair), **Michael Knowles** (Growing Better), **Dorota Hajdukiewicz** (Growing Better), **Rosie Atkins** (LESSN), **Rob Moores** (Growing Better; minutes), **Joe Foster** (Hollin Lane Allotments), **Marie-Pierre Dupont** (LCC and REAP)

Apologies: **Sarah-Jane Mason** (RHS), **Sonja Woodcock** (Leeds Food Partnership), **Becky Mears** (IE Aireborough and Season Well), Trish Cliff, **Mark Warner** (Plate 2 Plate Compost), Jonathan Busch, **Ben Fenton** (Orchard Project),

Land Access

Tom reported that he did ask for food growing in parks to be put on the agenda for discussion at the recent LPGSF meeting (which took place while he was away), however it appears not to have been discussed in any depth, so he will take forward to the next meeting which he hopes to attend.

Kirkstall Island Farm (KIF)

Noted that a BBQ event was held at the site last week. Councillor Illingworth was in attendance, and there was interest from attendees in signing up as customers to the CSA scheme. The FAS2 team and the KVP team had a positive meeting at which the farm was discussed with KIF proposals broadly supported.

KIRKSTALL VALLEY FARM - LAUNCHING THE IDEA

Thursday Oct 4th.

6-15pm Site Visit - Meet at Farm gates (see above)

7pm Meet in the Cardigan Arms (opposite Cardigan Fields retail park). Introduction by Sue Brown, an experienced community grower, who will discuss how we can go about setting up the business

If you can't make it but are interested in buying a veg box or helping set up the growing, please get in touch (if you haven't already)

LESSN

Rob to talk to Tom and Rosie about Growing Better presenting at next LESSN event

on the 18th of April 2019 at Meanwood Valeey Urban Farm: "Growing food and gardening through the curriculum"

Leeds Rotters

Meeting now arranged at 8pm on Monday 15th October at Tom's house. Please contact him directly for his address and to let him know if you would like to attend (numbers limited to number of teacups)...

Tom to call a sub group meeting focused on composting, open to all those who are interested in being involved, including: Mark, Tom, Emma Goodway, Marie Pierre, Michael, Joe, SJ and Ama. The meeting will be arranged via a Doodle – late afternoon is most likely time. The issue of whether to have a Facebook page or group will be resolved. Other social media eg Slack can also be considered for communications.

Joe Foster:

Joe updated the group on his investigation into allotments that sell surplus product or have a hedge veg scheme - as required for the LFP's SFC Bronze Award Application. One allotment sells produce at Kirkstall Deli market with income going to general allotment fund; others have a hedge veg scheme which is very successful. Joe spoke with Lynne Rogers (Council Allotment Officer in Council Parks Dep.t) who has emailed all allotments, and he has also emailed Leeds & District Allotment Federation for more information. Other allotments have sales at various times of the year.

Gardening Question Time

Sonja suggested that we run our own GQT. Following an initial discussion, the Growing Better team offered to develop some options for consideration at the next meeting. MVUF, WLAC and Arium were all posited as potential venues, each with their own advantages and drawbacks. The possibility of linking a GQT with another event was also considered.

Greggs Grant

Sonja reported that we were not successful in our grant application, and suggested that FL should consider applying to Awards for All. However, it may need to be done through another organization as FL, being an Unincorporated Association, may not itself meet the organizational criteria.

The Orchard Project

Ben Fenton has started in post. Tom has been in touch to invite him to Feed Leeds, which he's keen to do. (We've also suggested that he attend the next LPGS event). He's giving a talk to Tom's students in early October, which will provide an opportunity to develop the relationship. Meanwhile, we're sure FL members based at Hollybush, especially Andy and John, will make him extra welcome.

Growing Better

Have moved units and increasing capacity; trials for new products and services (eg waste collection)

We are undertaking a public consultation on West Leeds Community Farm Community on 29th September at West Leeds Activity Centre at 2pm. Details are on our Facebook page.

Next Potting Shed - 18th October 8pm - Further North

Jeremy Isles of Green Future Associates (<http://greenfuture.org.uk/index.html>) is coming to the next Potting Shed event. He has a number of questions about urban agriculture in Leeds that feed into his consultancy business plan, so we plan to have an general discussion around these points. This will be useful and informative to us and LFP too. (Jeremy has asked to see around KIF, so Tom has offered to do this if he has time on the day).

Next Feed Leeds Meeting 22nd October 9.30 am - Inkwell

Tom noted that we need to run day and evening meetings in each quarter. Tom to reach out to members and decide which is most suitable for the next meeting