



**Feed Leeds 2021**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June, 4:00pm (zoom meeting)**

**Attending:**

**Adam Ogilvie** (FL Chair, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (MVUF)), **Sonja Woodcock** (FL Treasurer, Leeds Food Coordinator at FoodWise Leeds), **Rachael Fox** (FL minutes), **Rosie Atkins** (FL, Leeds Rotters, LESSN), **Becky Mears** (FL, IE Aireborough / Season Well CIC), **Sue Ottley-Hughes** (FL, Friends of Stank Hall Barn), **Shaf G** (Food Waste Campaigner / Belleaf)

**Apologies:** **James Harrison** (FL, Patchwork farm), **Paul Magnall** (FL, Rainbow Junction, Leeds Rotters), **Tom Bliss** (FL, SowX), **Sarah-Jane Mason** (FL, RHS), **Emma Andrews** (Growing Friendship/ Season Well),

**Agenda**

**1) Approval of minutes from last meeting**

The minutes were approved with no amendments.

**2) Updates on current projects;**

**Leeds Local Plan**

Council asking for input to Leeds Local Plan – Sue OH is encouraging people from FOSH to respond, Sonja W wants to provide a formal response from FeedLeeds and nominated Tom B to lead on it. Becky M is interested in seeing how we can feed in.

This is an opportune time to push for more local food growing, so everyone is strongly encouraged to share with all their contacts

From a community perspective throughout the Big Leeds Climate Conversation local food production was a prime consideration. Growing food was the 5th most popular pro-environmental behaviour change that respondents would make, but say that barriers prevent them

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/campaign/local-plan-update>

Action: Tom B to create formal response

ACTION; All to share with contacts to complete

**LVL – Little Veg Libraries**

There was a YEP article in June that no one noticed

(<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/people/seeds-are-being-planted-for-a-growing-network-of-little-veg-libraries-across-leeds-3283685>)

and also a feature on local tv (<https://leedslocal.tv/news/little-veg-libraries-feed-leeds-initiative>)

Dan (IEGarforth) has been doing more work along the railway lines.

Temple Newsam have mentioned (v informally) that they are interested in creating a community veg bed in the walled garden.

Action: Rachael F to pass on info to Aimee from IECrossgates.

Becky reported that Guiseley LVL is going great. Mentioned that it would be good to encourage allotments to put excess produce in them.

Action: Joe F to approach LAF

Becky M is running workshops at Gipton Fire Station – requested that the currants growing there could be picked and stored to use at them.

Action: Sonja W to organise picking and storage of fruit

### **Growing Friendship**

Becky M reported that they've had great feedback, especially from people at LASSN, where the donated seedlings etc were really popular. Reminder of Facebook links:

[Growing Friendship Facebook Page](#) - for GF project updates + general growing content with a focus on growing whatever the space you have, low-cost growing, getting started with growing etc.

[Growing Friendship Facebook Group](#) - for a more community-focused space, for asking questions/sharing tips and experience. Any experience levels (new to growing > experienced growers) are welcome!

### **#LeedsActsTogether Climate Campaign**

Radio 5 Live were at Kirkgate market recently, the campaign landed really well on social media but Sonja fed back that the radio version wasn't that positive.

NOTE: Becky on R5Live after the meeting – from about 1:50 minutes in

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000y7dm>

### **3) Updates from Feed Leeds members**

Sonja W shared that there is an allotment survey from the council out at the moment (<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/sefd2p> open til 27th August) – it's aimed at people who already have a plot though.

Season Well are working with 6 organisations across Leeds to provide food growing and cooking sessions as part of the Healthy Holidays programme this summer

Full Circle Funerals in Guiseley have 'given' their garden over to Season Well – Becky M is looking for funding to develop it into a food growing demonstration garden and a place to run community food growing workshops/groups

Incredible Edible Guiseley have recruited extra volunteers who are helping with organisation. Still would like more volunteers for looking after beds. They are part of the #TakeASeat project. (Benches are donated and decorated with their choice of design <https://leedscivictrust.org.uk/take-a-seat/>)

Incredible Edible Crossgates have been offered land (60x3m) next to a nursery.

Greening Gipton Approach have decided to put an allotment at the top of the road instead of using the central reservation, so are going back to Highways to get permission. (see note from Tom below)

There's an XR event planned for Sunday 8th August – Feast on The Streets on Briggate. Tom has volunteered to run this. He will need the Feed Leeds banner currently at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (please leave at reception for collection on the 7th), and a folding table - if anyone has one please. Attendees generally agreed we could host a stall between us but weren't confident it was definitely going ahead. Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/521080289001489>

XR event: <https://rebellion.global/event/521080289001489/>

Shaf G (who set up the Bell Isle food project Belleaf) introduced himself and explained he was working on reducing food waste, mentioned how much is being wasted because EU workers aren't able to pick it. He's working with the manager at Manorfields Hall in Belle Isle to educate users on how to use fresh produce.

Sue OH mentioned that the Salvation Army have been doing some work in Hunslet and that FOSH regularly get contacted about donations that food banks can't accept, e.g. nappies, and they pass it on to their contacts so it doesn't go to waste.

### Fruitworks

Tom reported by email after the Feeds Leeds meeting that he met with Fruitworks and the LCC woodland creation team (Danny Smith and Oscar Smith) re orchards in Leeds and Bradford. As a result, we are sharing policy ideas for schools, community groups, businesses, and landowners/farmers. Danny agreed to include mention of orchards in proposals, and to contact Stocksbridge and Askham Bryan for science back-up. We recommended that fruit trees (which may not be cropping species) should be clumped in woodland planting by LCC where possible as the start of an orchard area where locals can plant cropping trees nearby to create a productive orchard. Alan is sending proposals used for work in Bradford schools and community groups - with suggested ideas for business partners, Danny to adapt and submit to WRF for grant. Difference to the Tree Council offer (funded by the Daily Mail) to be emphasized. Danny will speak to Polly Cook re Bloomberg food bid which should have useful info for grant. In discussions around possible pilot sites in Leeds Tom shared contacts for Greening Gipton Approach (Camille) and the Seacroft growing project run by Linda Otley. Alan shared the new Forest Research workbook that helps understand the relative

benefits for carbon capture, avoided run-off, pollution removal, etc of different types of tree:  
<https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/research/urban-tree-benefits/es-provision/>  
and <https://twitter.com/FruitWorksCoop/status/1415648451656826889>

#### 4) AOB

Rosie mentioned the food poverty map from Sheffield University

Article: <https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/news/new-map-shows-where-millions-uk-residents-struggle-access-food>

**Map:**

<https://shefuni.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/interactivelegend/index.html?appid=8be0cd9e18904c258afd3c959d6fc4d7>

Sue OH mentioned that food poverty is getting much worse, especially in Devon.

**Rotters** are waiting to get back to composting, but are now more established so should go well when they restart.

Newly elected Cllr Emma Flint (Weetwood) has been in touch as interested in community composting and is looking into possible funding. Sonja is in discussion with her about the Brighton model.

Shaf asked what compost activity happens around Leeds:

Plate2Plate collects compostable waste for a monthly fee and sells the product at farmers markets.  
<https://www.plate2platecompost.com/>

Sonja mentioned the Brighton model: <https://bhfood.org.uk/directory-hub/community-composting/>  
Sonja W shared Matt Milners (Food Cycle) contact info with Shaf and Shaf shared his email so info could be passed on from members.

Sonja mentioned that we might need to start planning harvest events. Growing Friendship are planning 2 or 3 harvest events in late September/early October Dates TBA

Harehills Gardener Mothin Ali, who is also on the BBC 5 Live interview, has the popular My Family Garden channel on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCG2RWj-MppaH71gZmcpH8ag>

Climate Cook-In – 26<sup>th</sup> July-1<sup>st</sup> August - <https://www.wearepossible.org/cookin-facts>

#### 5) Date of next meeting

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 4pm zoom**