



Feed Leeds Minutes: April 15th 2019 – Nunroyd Rd

Apologies and Minutes

Present: **Tom Bliss** (Chair and minutes), **Sonja Woodcock** (Leeds Food Partnership), **Paul Ackroyd** (former Manager LCC The Arium), **Sue Ottley-Hughes** (Stank Hall Barn).

Apologies: **Paul Magnull** (Rainbow Junction, Leeds Rotters), **Rosie Atkins** (LESSN and Kirkstall Valley Farm), **Joe Foster** (Hollin Lane Allotments), **Sarah-Jane Mason** (RHS), **Marie-Pierre Dupont** (REAP and LCC Housing), **Emma Goodway** Space 2.

Leeds Parks and Green Spaces Forum: Growing in Parks

Tom and Paul will present at the next Forum on 25th April (Meanwood Institute, 2.15pm).

We will offer a talk about composting at the next event on the 24th of July - **any takers to deliver this?**

Leeds Rotters:

Wheelie Workshop

The group met on Sunday the 14th to discuss next steps. Mark will be sending round notes in due course, but in summary we agreed to run a Wheelie Workshop in June with, hopefully, Horsforth In Bloom who have both green and food waste from their Junk Food café to compost. The plan is to obtain a number of redundant bins from [Forge Recycling](#) (the mobility of the bins is useful, they are fairly rat-proof, it's good to reuse stuff bound for landfill, and the conversions are both fun and newsworthy):

<https://www.instructables.com/id/Make-a-Compost-Bin-From-a-Wheelie-Bin/>

We will experiment with perhaps four conversion options, making bins for the pioneer hub in (we hope) Horsforth, plus, if time, a number of spares that can be offered to satellite hubs as they come on stream. The prototypes will be trialed, and the most successful method rolled out to hubs that have the basic requirement of 1) both garden and food waste to compost in quantity, and 2) at least one (reasonably) expert composter on board. The pioneer hub will run training and mentoring for satellite hubs, but also individual homes / allotments / community groups showing interest.

Please get in touch if your group would like to host a Leeds Rotters Hub.

Co-management

Having started as a Feed Leeds 'Internal' project, Leeds Rotters quickly developed into an independent group led by as much by people not on the FL committee as those on it; aka an 'Associated' project. However, as the group would now like to take advantage of the start-up facility offered by FL, whereby the FL bank account and constitution can be used for funding purposes in the short term while the group gets onto its own two feet, the Rotters have made a request for official 'co-managed' status (see here for an explanation):

http://www.turnstone.tv/NEW_FL/projects.html

Specifically, they need to find money for the website and have a couple of possible lines of attack. As hosting is essentially a permanent arrangement, it was agreed to limit FL responsibility to one year, with three years of hosting paid for from the first tranche of funding lest this should lock the relationship in place for longer than is necessary. Leeds Rotters would aim to have their own bank account and constitution by this time next year.

The FL meeting being quorate, it was agreed that this should be done. **FL committee members should therefore note that for the duration of the arrangement (12 months), we will be technically liable for all 'acts and omissions' (including debts) of Leeds Rotters.** (See the FL constitution for Further details). **Tom to write a Memorandum of Understanding for this purpose, to be signed off by email for speed.**

Sharewaste

It was also resolved that the Leeds Rotters hubs would be listed on the Sharewaste website.

<https://sharewaste.com/>



ShareWaste

All Feed Leeds projects are encouraged to visit and sign up for this excellent world-wide initiative.

LESSN: Growing Food and Gardening through the Curriculum (18th of April).

This again takes place at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm. Sonja, Sarah-Jane and Luke will be representing Feed Leeds/LESSN (Tom is now unable to attend).

Feed Leeds has resolved that any parents or school volunteers contacting us direct should be invited as guests of Feed Leeds / LESSN, because schools are unlikely to pay for non-staff. As we provide our time and expertise for free, the committee feel it's reasonable that this should 'buy' us a few places for non-paying guests who have bona-fide school projects needing our support.

Climate / Brexit Risks and Disaster Planning

The next meeting in this exciting sequence is with Cllr Charlwood (Health) on the 23rd of April (Tom and Sonja with Emma Strachan in attendance).

Tom and Sonja are also meeting with Tom Knowland, Professor Tim Benton and UoL researchers Paola Hernandez and Anne Owen on the 13th of May, to explore indicators capable of measuring global threats to the Leeds food system. **Sonja to invite a researcher she knows, who leading on a related bid, to this meeting.**

FoodWise Leeds / Leeds Food Partnership

Sonja is hard at work on the final bid for the Bronze award, which will be completed by the end of the month.

To this end she is especially keen for Feed Leeds projects to **please sign up for:**

The Big Dig on Saturday 27th April <https://www.bigdig.org.uk/>

Chapel Allerton In Bloom are taking part, and Sue will be putting the suggestion to the Friends of Stank Hall board.



Veg Cities: <https://www.vegcities.org/>



Both websites have maps, and we need Leeds to be well-represented on both maps - please!

BILeaf (Belle Isle Leaf): Community Food Growing Project

Paul reported that he has been in regular touch with Shaf, and things are progressing well, with ownership of the site established, contact with council officers and members initiated, and a line of approach agreed. Sue, who also has extensive experience of running community food growing projects in South Leeds has also offered to meet with Shaf and provide additional support. **Tom to introduce Sue to Shaf.**

Friends of Stank Hall Barn

Sue reported that although the site is in the process of being sold to a wedding venue developer (the sale is still under negotiation) they still have access for one more year, and are talking to the

developer about continuing on-site after development, maintaining the medieval garden layout in the front, and moving production to another part of the site.

FoSH's chief current problems (apart from persistent, targeted vandalism - by known miscreants, who routinely also attack other sites nearby such as the bike track, but seem immune from prosecution) are lack of volunteers (a number have left the group recently) and lack of funds. **Anyone interesting in helping, please contact Sue.**

Community Outreach

Sue suggested that FL should aim to have stalls at the bigger community shows this summer, and all agreed. We have a banner, triptych, veg table cloth, printed materials and (via Tom) a gazebo tent. We will need funds for business cards and stall fees, plus a roster of volunteers. Sue has offered to part-fund the first three events (thanks Sue), and Paul is following up on a couple of possibilities for funding and/or getting 'special' fees for certain events (thanks Paul). Tom to design business cards when he has a spare three seconds. **Anyone willing to 'person' a stall please get in touch.**

RHS Green Plan It 2019 in Harrogate - Inspire the next generation to grow!

The RHS is looking for volunteers from the horticultural industry to mentor small teams of 12-14 year old students through the Green Plan It challenge. Over ten weeks, you'll help students plan and create a model garden for their school or community and support them to share their ideas. You'll provide inspiration to help to facilitate the team to make their own decisions about their ideal green space. This is a unique opportunity to give students an insight into the world of horticulture and to help them understand the importance of plants and outdoor spaces to individuals and communities. You will also have the opportunity to network with other horticultural mentors and develop your coaching skills and confidence.

Key Dates

Launch day: Monday 16th September 2019

Celebration day: Tuesday 3rd December 2019

- **If you are interested in getting involved**, and for more details about being a mentor please visit: <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/11-19-years/Green-Plan-It/Mentors> *We'd also be grateful if you would be happy to share this with anyone who may also be interested in becoming a Green Plan It mentor.*
- **Do you know a secondary school that might be interested in taking part?** School registration for Green Plan It 2019 will open on Tuesday 23 April, please encourage them to enter by following this link: <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/11-19-years/Green-Plan-It>.

Next Meeting:

Again, a combined **Potting Shed Drinks and GM, at Tom's on Thursday 16th of May at 7.30 pm - 32 Nunroyd Rd LS17 6 PF.**