



**Feeds Leeds 2021**  
**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 4:00pm (zoom meeting)**

**Attending:** **Sonja Woodcock** (FL Treasurer, Leeds Food Coordinator at FoodWise Leeds), **Becky Mears** (FL, IE Aireborough / Season Well CIC), **Rosie Atkins**, (FL, LESSN, Leeds Rotters) **Sarah-Jane Mason** (FL, RHS), **Adam Ogilvie** (FL Chair, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm), **Tom Bliss** (FL, SowX), **Rachael Fox** (FL minutes), **Katie Allen** (PhD researcher), **Camille Thomas** (FL, Space2), **Sue Ottley-Hughes** (FL, Friends of Stank Hall Barn), **Emily Alsop** (PhD researcher), **Helen** (XR Leeds), **James Harrison** (FL, IE Airebrough), **Linda Wilkinson** (Cookridge Litter Pickers).

**Apologies:** **Isabel Ruiz and Vicky Carruthers** (Otley Community Allotment), **Lizzi Pell** (XR Leeds, IE Moorton), **Joe Foster** (FL, Leeds Allotment Federation), **Alan and Gini** (Fruitworks), **Emma Andrews**

1. **Committee business. Approval of minutes.** Minutes approved,
2. **Greening Gipton Approach** - Camille from Space2 talked about a project that's part of a council initiative about Greening Gipton and Harehills in East Leeds. There's a big central reservation on Gipton Approach which the local councillors have funded Space2 to work with local residents to improve the planting of. (Highways are involved). An open meeting was held with ~10 local residents attending, who raised concerns about safety and anti-social behaviour. Camille requested advice about avoiding vandalism and keeping the residents happy. Brief discussion about ideas and locations.
  - Sue OH offered to help with advice from FOSH.
  - Helen XR offered advice about not blocking the view for drivers.
  - Sonja W offered advice about wildflower planting and suggested exercise routes.
  - Tom B advised wildflowers and trees as they're low maintenance. Encouraging people to gather in the middle of a busy road might lead to problems over time.
3. **Current projects updates:**

**SowX and Growing Friendship** – Sonja updated that it's going really well. She and Becky were interviewed by Leeds TV at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm:

<https://leedslocal.tv/news/sow-a-row-xtra-feed-leeds-initiative/>



Seedlings have been donated to Drop-off and full Xchange sites, and these have been both collected by people needing seedlings and channelled into the Growing Friendship hubs managed by Becky. Food hampers have also been donated by The Fruit Stall, GoodBox and Eat Your Greens. To help encourage people to get involved, please use the hashtag #GetGrowingLeeds and tag FoodWise Leeds when you post on social media: [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)

There are currently 9 Drop-offs and 11 Xchange sites listed on the [map](#), and Becky (Season Well) now has 3 Growing Friendship hubs:

- MVUF, where videos about how to grow are being created in conjunction with Lemon Balm and a QR code is being used to direct people to a survey to help with the funding monitoring.
- LASSN in Harehills, where targeted delivery of seedlings etc will take place along with workshops and other support for asylum seekers and refugees from across Leeds. First workshop was Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May with packs are being delivered as well. CATCH is doing really well with their food growing project, Grow Together, and received funding from Green Social Prescribing Grant fund
- Yeadon, working with Guiseley community foundation, which will be targeting people who need access to fresh food, e.g. food bank/healthy holiday scheme users.

## LVLs

Both the two prototypes designed and built by Neil Hollingworth from [North Leeds Joinery](#) and funded by [Leeds Community Foundation](#) are now in place in Guiseley (managed by Becky and James of IE Aireborough) and Garforth (managed by Dan of IE Garforth).







The pink one in Chapel Allerton Park, managed by CA Spaces (Sarah Priestly), was funded by Stoneacre Properties and made by The Leeds Woodcrafters - 3 generations of local joiners - who are keen to help make more. This one will soon feature text painted by Kieran of Third Eye Signs and the LVL logo. *"CA Spaces have made a permanent plant swap home in Chapel Allerton Park. Just walked passed this morning and there's succulents and spider plants looking for new homes. The space is for people to share things like... seeds, plants, produce, recipes or gardening books year round. It goes next to their veg beds, a social space for all to have access to fresh food with "Veg Club" grow together sessions every Sat 3-5pm - any age, any skill or just for people to socialise."*

**@CA\_Spaces**  
**LITTLE VEG LIBRARY**

***This space is for sharing as  
a community donations of  
seeds, plants, recipes or  
gardening books***

***VEG CLUB meets Saturdays  
3-5pm for any age, any level  
interested in having a go at  
growing or just a chat!***



A fourth LVL in Bramley is already under construction and Tom and Becky both reported lots of interest in new LVLs across Leeds. We have had about 15 inquiries, including from people

attending the meeting, and this is likely to skyrocket once the Press Release goes out. Tom stressed that this is a low resource project, which could potentially swamp Feed Leeds. So we need to support people find funding and build their own LVLs rather than seek a large pot and set up a factory ourselves.

Tom is writing a PR campaign and a How To Make leaflet (see appendix for early draft = suggestions welcome), covering best locations, design, construction, installation, a list of willing makers branding, funding (local Tesco's, local councillor 'mice money' etc). SJ suggested adding info to the website so that it's easily accessible. Tom will make the booklet downloadable from the Sowx/LVL page, and include a live list of makers and funders to keep up to date.

**Actions for all network members: please supply suggestions for funding and makers**

#### **4. Updates from FL members**

**Tom** is liaising with Linda Otley from the Seacroft CEPAC group on how best to gain access to housing land for a new community food growing scheme. They have had advice from Marie-Pierre Dupont, and Tom has copied in Polly Cook with a request that we somehow achieve a sea change re permissions for schemes like this.

He has also fielded an Enquiry from Western Flatts Park (who are currently researching future usage) re orchard and food growing on the old bowling green, which he referred on to Fruit Works.

Fruit Works and Tom have a continuing dialogue with Danny Smith (LCC Woodland Creation team) and re adding orchards and forest gardens to the planting mix for next season. Further meetings are planned with Glenn Gerner, and re school orchards / food growing on how to reduce carbon emissions through menu design, procurement practices, cooking and reducing food waste.

Tom's film about Fruit Works is now live on the Woodlands TV channel:

<https://www.woodlands.co.uk/tv/2021/05/planting-a-community-orchard/>



**FruitWorks** added this update:

We're mainly busy designing school orchards with lots of schools in Bradford, but we have also organised some summer training workshops:  
9 & 16 June: Scything, Meanwood Farm ~ [www.meanwoodmow.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.meanwoodmow.eventbrite.co.uk)



Mon 12 July: Summer pruning, Kirkstall ~ [www.lilacprune.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.lilacprune.eventbrite.co.uk)

Both are repeated in Shipley so if the dates don't work please have a look at our course listing. We'll also be doing a "bud grafting" workshop in late July somewhere in Leeds.

**Becky** – Looking at starting a project working with Plate2Plate on composting for schools - see also her excellent work leading on the Growing Friendship project / SowX and LVLs.

**Helen** – Lizzie Pell (XR Leeds) is running a picnic in Roundhay Park on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June, 1-4pm (Facebook event [here](#)) giving out seedlings with info about the Climate & Ecological Emergency bill (CEE bill) and how to write to your MP. Becky can donate spare seedlings from Season Well workshops (and Tom advised to use the map to contact various Drop-off and Xchange sites for more if needed). Also reported that they're having a talk about climate action and creating climate hubs in empty shop space, with Leeds Climate Action Committee trying to push food poverty perspective.

Our Future Leeds Action Forum (Date unknown - 23rd or 24<sup>th</sup> June?) @ 6pm usually til 7.30  
Ruth and Pheonix from Climate Emergency Centres plus no doubt other agenda points.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83962341093?pwd=NUISV21ubVYyMGI1Y3dzcVpleWVxZz09>

Meeting ID: 839 6234 1093

Passcode: 892796

**Sue** from Friends of Stank Hall reports that they have lots of seedlings grown and given away to local residents. Also warning about a colleague growing food for the homeless targeted by someone with different views! Led to police intervention. Be safe people.

**Sonja** re FoodWise. Leeds Climate Action (formerly CECAP) has appointed transition partners, and FoodWise will be leading on the food theme. The initial focus will be on raising awareness of the Healthy Start scheme to enable low income families to access fruit, vegetables and milk. Esther Bissell will continue as the Healthy Start project worker. The aim is to attract additional funding so the role can be developed further to engage a wider audience in the impact of food and climate.



**Tom** now has a small hill of plastic seed trays - more than needed for SowX at this time of year. Anyone want some, perhaps for fencing off their houses with, please email [tom@urbal.tv](mailto:tom@urbal.tv)

## **5. AOB**

In-person meetings were discussed but most felt that zoom works best for the committee meetings. Ideas of when and where to have Potting Shed meetings led to the suggestion of different people hosting them in different places across Leeds.

Rachael mentioned that The Real Junk Food Project in Stourton have lots of crates and pallets to give away.

Tom advised his seed trays needed a new home – see pics in appendix.

SJ forgot to share that UCL Plastic Innovation Hub have a new study and [survey](#) out now – more info in appendix.

Rachael forgot to share that she's got 2 potential venues for Leeds Allotments equipment maintenance sessions in conjunction with Leeds Repair Cafe.

## **6. Next meeting.**

Date for next meeting – Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June.

Proposed dates for 2021 meetings :

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November



## Appendix:

We're writing to you because you took part in our **Big Compost Experiment** and indicated you'd be interested in other follow-up news and research from the **UCL Plastic Waste Innovation Hub**.

### **What is the study?**

We've expanded our work on food waste with a new **Food Waste Survey**. Food waste is processed to create renewable energy or to make compost which is used to enrich the soil. We are studying the things that encourage people to recycle food waste and/or make it challenging to do so. Your responses will help us to identify strategies that increase the amount of food waste collected.

### **How can I take part?**

We need help from UK volunteers by filling out our short survey. It doesn't matter if you don't currently recycle food waste - we still want to hear from you!

Read about the study and take part in the survey [here](#).

Thanks in advance!

The UCL Plastic Waste Innovation Hub

FROM LEEDS PATCHWORK FARM TEAM

Dear local food grower/producer,

We have been researching and developing an idea to create **Leeds Patchwork Farm**. It will bring together current food growers and producers into a network with the aim of increasing the availability of local sustainable food in Leeds, enabling more growers, and creating a fairer and more resilient food system in the face of corporate dominance and climate change. We hope that Leeds Patchwork Farm will grow and evolve over time, but to start with we are proposing a virtual food hub where growers and producers can upload their available produce, and customers can order from different businesses, all in one place. Leeds Patchwork Farm would sort the administration, collection and delivery of the produce, taking a small cut to cover the running costs. You can see an example of a food hub of this sort at [StroudCo](#), a not-for-profit community interest company based in Gloucestershire.

**To help us develop this further we would like to hear from growers and producers in and around Leeds (or anyone considering becoming a grower/producer in future). Please help by completing our short online survey by [clicking here](#).**

Leeds Patchwork Farm was partly inspired by the Growing Communities model ([www.growingcommunities.org/about-us](http://www.growingcommunities.org/about-us)), which is a successful project in London that grows food (through a small farm and a Patchwork Farm) and operates as a collaborative wholesaler for other growers and producers (the Better Food Shed). They also connect customers with volunteer opportunities, have learning gardens and offer tours. As a wholesaler they provide a more efficient route to market (with shared marketing, delivery,

pick/grow to order models etc.), pay growers a fair price, and enable more growers to start or scale up food production.

We would like to run Leeds Patchwork Farm along similar principles to Growing Communities - you can read more at [www.growingcommunities.org/key-principles](http://www.growingcommunities.org/key-principles).

**You can access our survey by [clicking here](#).** We want to build this idea in a collaborative way, and create something that is genuinely beneficial to growers, producers and consumers in Leeds. If you have any thoughts, comments or questions you can also email us back at this address. Feel free to forward this email and the survey link to anyone you know who might be interested.

Thanks, The Leeds Patchwork Farm team

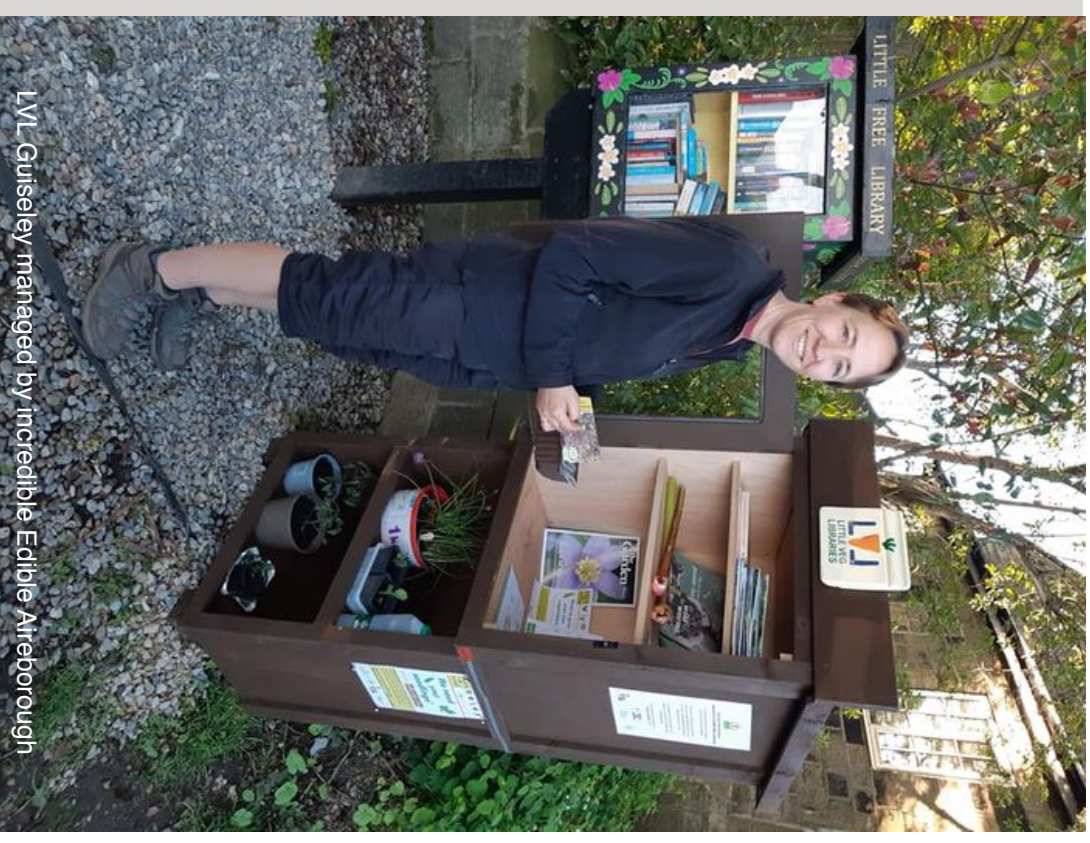
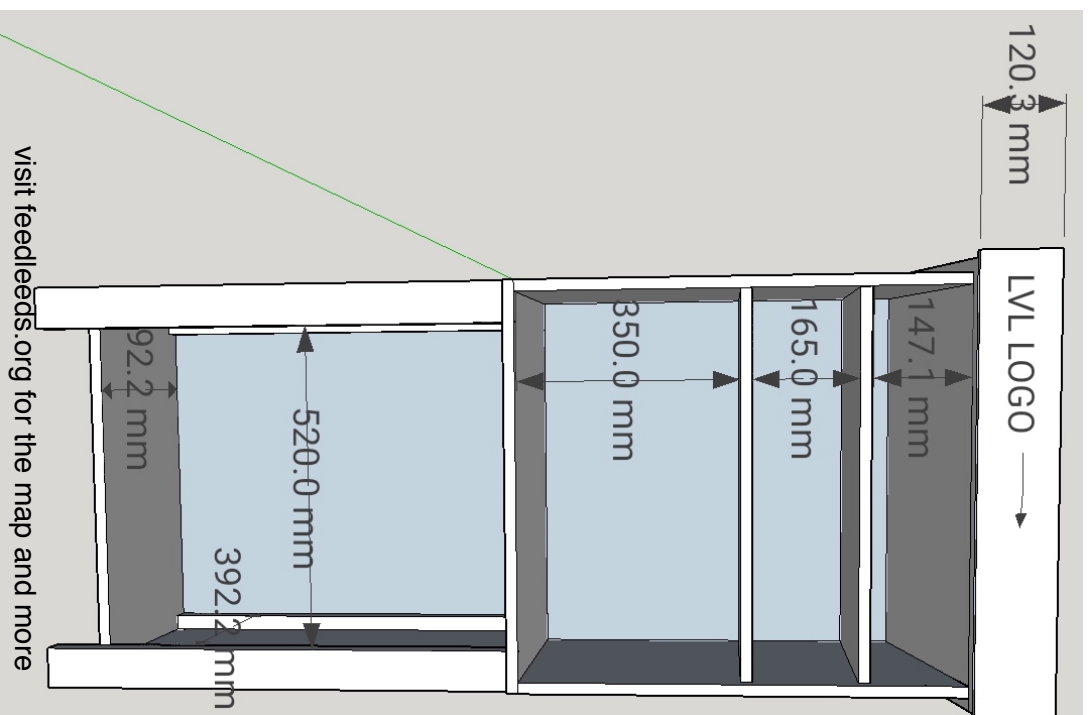




# Making a Little Veg Library

Feed Leeds <http://feedleeds.org/> wants these funky little stalls to be even more popular and widespread than the little book libraries that inspired them. But we don't currently have any funding, so we hope that this leaflet will help you to fund and make one yourself. The images are mainly of our two prototypes, but you can make yours any size or shape that suits your site. Overleaf you'll find hints on location, features, funding, makers and more.

## LITTLE VEG LIBRARIES



LVL Guiseley managed by incredible Edible Aireborough





**Location** It's up to you where you put your LVL, but the experience of little book libraries suggests that the site should have high visibility and footfall, but be where someone can keep a close eye on it. Be sure to obtain permission from the land owner.

**Fixing** You can set the legs into soft ground (use treated timber or bitumastic paint) or put in a fence post and attach to that, or lay treated 4x2 'skis' on hard ground and attach to them, or a bolt on a wall. Or mount on wheels, secure with a bike chain, and put away at night!

**Design** The shape's up to you. The dimensions on the front cover are just a guide (the prototyped 'developed' from these). Key features are; a sloping roof with overhangs (ideally with a waterproof covering), a dry box with perspex door for seed packs, books and recipes, and shelves - some in the dry, and some out in the wet for tools, seedlings and hedge veg. Make it wide enough for seed trays, say 380 x 240 minimum. Extras might include a box or bin at the side or back for soil, compost and larger tools - or even a community compost bin, why not? (See <http://feedstroters.org.uk> for to make one from a wheeleele bin).

**Branding** Please display the LVL logo as well as your own if you have one. We can supply sickers, stencil and/or plaques as available. A poster (encapsulated for protection) on the side can advise people about your group. Please include both the LVL and Feed Leeds logos on this if you have space. And also say there's a map of all the LVL sites on <http://feedleeds.org> and much more besides.

**Funding** Fundraising for your LVL is a great way to engage with the local community and gather additional support. If you do need additional funding, community support schemes are available from local councillors (MICE money) plus many large stores and supermarkets. Check locally to see what might be available.

<https://doinggoodleeds.org.uk/support-for-organisations/funding>

<https://tescobagsofhelp.org.uk/community-apply-bags-help-grant/>

<https://www.diy.com/corporate/waste-donation>

<https://causes.coop.co.uk/>

visit [feedleeds.org](http://feedleeds.org) for the map and more





## Materials

<https://www.leedswoodrecycling.co.uk/>  
<https://scrapstuff.co.uk/>, often has clear plastic in stock

**Makers** You may have someone in your group happy to create your LVL. If not here are some contacts to approach: Neil Hollingworth from **North Leeds Joinery** made the prototypes:

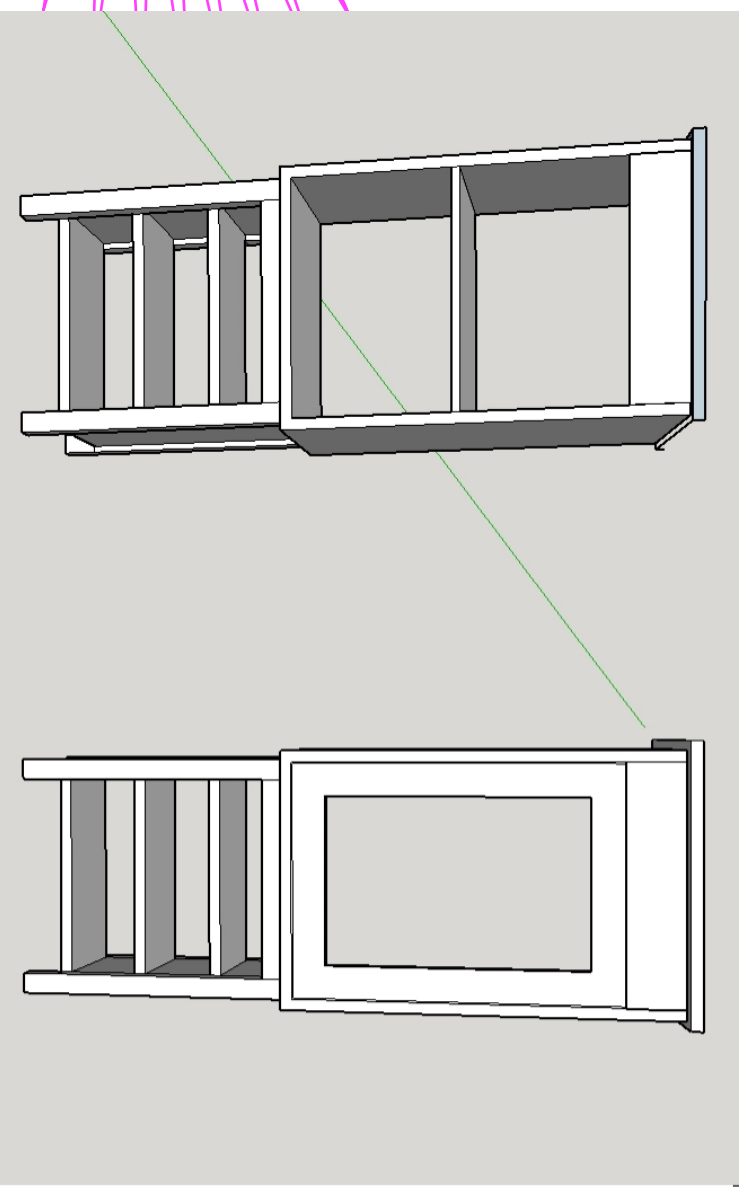
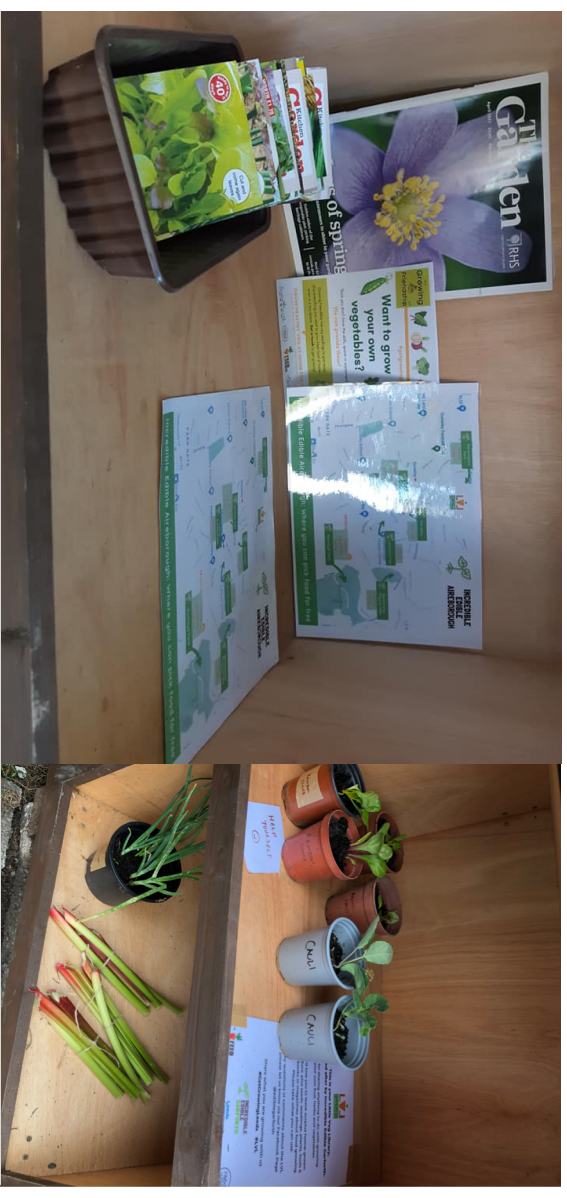
neil@northleedsjoinery.com.  
<https://www.facebook.com/www.NLJ.co.uk/> - Jamie

from **The Leeds Woodcrafters** made the one in Chapel Allerton: [jamiewaddington@hotmail.com](mailto:jamiewaddington@hotmail.com) but best contacted via Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/theleedswoodcrafters/?hl=en> - or <https://menssheds.org.uk/find-a-shed/>

## Insurance

Check if the landowner has public liability in place to cover the LVL. If not consider obtaining your own public liability insurance so members of your group and the wider public are covered if any injury arises from stocking or using the LVL.

Please send further suggestions for  
**FUNDING, MAKERS AND MATERIALS**  
to [tom@urbal.tv](mailto:tom@urbal.tv)



visit [feedleeds.org](http://feedleeds.org) for the map and more