



## Feed Leeds Virtual Meeting – Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 4pm by zoom

### ATTENDEES

**Rob Moores** (FL Chair, Passion4Plants), **Sarah-Jane Mason** (FL secretary – minutes, RHS), **Rosie Atkins** (FL secretary –minutes, FL Farm group), **Becky Mears** (FL, IE Aireborough / Season Well CIC), **Sonja Woodcock** (FL Treasurer, Leeds Food Coordinator at FoodWise Leeds), **Rosie Hall** (FL, LAF Secretary), **Emma Andrews** (FL), **Penny Pinn** (FL, Horsforth Community Café & Garden), **Paul Magnall** (FL, Rainbow Junktion), **Alan Thornton** (Fruitworks coop), **Gemma Hoban** (Incredible Edible Leeds), **Lynn Brown** (IE Meanwood)

### APOLOGIES

**Adam Ogilvie** (FL, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm (MVUF), **Anna Marsden-Ragnarsson** (Kirkstall Valley Farm), **Virginia Morandi** (Ginny) (Fruitworks coop), **Dan Robinson** (FL, Incredible Edible Leeds), **Ed Elcock** (FL, Yorkshire Mushroom Emporium), **Ama Chaney** (Grow to School), **Camille Thomas** (FL, Space2), **Clarrie Ramsden** (FL, Climate Action Seacroft)

### **MINUTES**

Minutes of previous meeting

Approval of minutes from last meeting (for a copy of the minutes see website <https://feedleeds.org/>)

#### **1. Feed Leeds Current projects**

Get Growing Leeds (inc LVL and Sow a Row Xtra)

Feed Leeds have successfully been awarded funding from Leeds Community Foundation to launch our #GetGrowingLeeds project for 2024. We will be using the funding to get more people growing food by supporting growing groups and engaging new growers across the city. We have the support of Zoe Parker, Foodwise for 6 days to develop the campaign and marketing materials.

**ACTION ALL** Share the #GetGrowingLeeds Flyers <https://linktr.ee/feedleeds> with any groups or via socials to encourage groups to take part

Phase 1 - The #GetGrowingLeeds campaign was launched during #GoodtoGrow week in April, with promotion of SowaRowXtra. This campaign will encourage members to grow extra seedlings to donate to a Little Veg Library. We plan to reach out to existing and new Little Veg Libraries (LVLs) in order to update the [Get Growing Leeds map](#) locations and make it as easy as possible for people to find them to donate or take plants. Rosie H confirmed that the Leeds Allotment federation are encouraging their groups to host a hedge veg or LVL for excess plants and produce.

**ACTION Gemma** Share details of the IE LVLs so they can be added to the FL map

**ACTION ALL** If you host or use a LVL please check the details are correct on our map, if any changes are required please contact FL on [info@feedleeds.org](mailto:info@feedleeds.org)

Phase 2 – We will be supporting community engagement and growing events held between 24/5 and 9/6/24. Members of the FL committee will be attending events and groups have the chance to apply for FREE plug plants to give out at events (deadline 19<sup>th</sup> May).

Confirmed events:

WHO	WHERE	WHEN	COMMITTEE MEMBER ATTENDING
Horsforth Green Gardening Fair	St Margarets Church	Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 1.30-4pm	Rosie A
Harehills Action Team Climate Action Assembly-	The Compton Centre Community Hub and Library, LS9 7BG	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May 10.30-2.30pm	Becky M Sonja
Community United Garden Action Day	Stainbeck Church, LS7 2PP	Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> May. 10am - 3pm	
Seasonwell CIC & Incredible Edible Event		End May TBC	Becky M
Permaculture and Sustainability Fayre	Bedford Fields	Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 11am to 5pm  Contact <a href="mailto:bedfordfieldscfg@gmail.com">bedfordfieldscfg@gmail.com</a> for a booking form if you would like a stand	Sonja Rosie A
Allotments Annual Open Day & Plant Fair	Hollin Lane Allotments, Hollin Drive, LS16 5NE	2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Rosie H
Damasq & Ebor Gardens	Ebor Gardens Community Centre Leeds, LS9 7PS	TBC	

**ACTION ALL** If you are holding an event between 24/5 and 9/6 and would like to register your interest and apply for FREE plug plants (to be collected from Oakwood Market Garden or Meanwood Valley Urban Farm) please visit <https://linktr.ee/feedleeds> and complete your details.

Phase 3 – We will be holding a harvest celebration inviting all the groups to meet and share a meal and good news stories. This event will be a good way to evaluate the impact of the campaigns and share best practice between groups.

#### Farm Group

FoodWise Leeds and Feed Leeds are collaborating to present a special screening of the documentary film “Six Inches of Soil” – a story of courage, vision and hope.

This film showcases the incredible journey of British farmers who have taken a stand against the industrial food system and transforming the way they produce food. Through their innovative practices, they are healing the soil, benefitting our health and providing for local communities.

The screening will be held at HEART on Friday, May 10, with doors opening at 6pm. The film will start at 6:30pm, followed by a panel discussion where attendees can engage with experts and discuss the important themes presented in the documentary and how we can do things differently here in Leeds. This is an opportunity to learn about sustainable agriculture practices and be inspired by the positive impact farmers can have on our food system.

**ACTION ALL** The Six inches of Soil Film will be shown at HEART Fri 10th May visit [Eventbrite](#) to book a place, all tickets are free with a suggested £9 donation.

Sonja is working with 5 regional Food Partnerships and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority on food supply systems and procurement.

There are 2 PhD pieces of food-focused research, with which we have contact : 'Landed Community Kitchens' ( <https://www.agroecologicalurbanism.org/building-blocks/landed-community-kitchen> ) and 'Fork to Farm dialogue' between Leeds peri-urban farmers and consumers including LCC procurement. ( <https://www.sustainweb.org/news/dec21-fork-to-farm/> )

We are working with NReal Farming Conference and Hodmedods on a feasibility project for a bean processing unit in the North for agro-ecological farmers - following a successful funding bid to 'Farming the Future'.

**Feed Leeds Consultation – Ed, Rob and Rosie.**

Feeds Leeds was formally constituted in 2012 and since then has developed a strong track record in inspiring, facilitating and representing growers, educators and influencers to help develop sustainable, resilient and socially just food systems across our city. Over the past 12 years the need for action has only increased and the landscape of organisations contributing in this space has evolved.

At the recent AGM it was proposed that Feed Leeds formally consults with all of our stakeholders around our aims, objectives and activities to ensure that we continue to focus our energy and resources where we are best positioned to contribute.

**ACTION ALL** If you have between 1-4 hours available over the next 6-8 weeks it would be great to have you as part of the group helping to design and manage the consultation. Please email [info@feedleeds.org](mailto:info@feedleeds.org) if you are interested.

**Data sharing with members – what should and can we share via the Socials and Mailchimp?**

Chair raised that 2 things to consider as we don't have a policy on either currently.....:

1. Directly promoting commercial events on the FL FB page. Is it ok for non-profits but not for standard businesses? Should it be limited to one day a week (a popular choice for community-based groups) ? etc.
2. What do we feel about forwarding information and requests from third parties to our members or sharing on socials?

The group discussed the first item and we decided that we could promote local businesses, especially where they are members of Feed Leeds and the work promotes local food growing or skills sharing.

Wrt the second item we will review the subscription wording to see if this allows us to share information other than the minutes via Mailchimp.

## **2. FL Members updates**

## Season Well

Working with Mind Well on the Transforming Mental Health Programme <https://www.mindwell-leeds.org.uk/transforming-community-mental-health-services> and other engagement programmes offering outdoor learning, growing and cooking.

## Fruitworks

Alan confirmed that they have been working with the council to set up 7 new community orchards <https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/8dn2wc> which is working towards their target of 100 supported orchards across the city. Fruitworks offer activities and training across all 12 months of the year.

Excess fruit trees – Alan confirmed that the group have some trees in the nursery which have lost labels and so cannot be sold. If you would be interested in obtaining a tree (for a small donation) please contact Fruitworks on [hello@fruitworks.org.uk](mailto:hello@fruitworks.org.uk)

## Hyde Park Source

Pete confirmed that HP Source are continuing to improve health and wellbeing through the range of programmes. Design & Build, Community Garden workshops and strategic projects (such as developing and facilitating the Leeds Green Activity Providers Network <https://lgap.co.uk/> and exploring Right to Grow in Leeds with the council).



**Orchard Blossom Celebration**

It's apple blossom time, and we invite you to come and smell the blossoms while enjoying the activities within our thriving community spaces.

*So Come*

Celebrate the achievements of the Elmete Community Orchard and Oakwood Market Garden as part of the *Good to Grow* week.

**Activities Included**

- Market Garden Tour & Talk
- Plant Sale
- Bees & Honey Talk
- Children's Activities
  - Treasure Hunt
  - Sunflower Seed Planting
  - Paper Pot Making
- Refreshments available

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL  
TIME: 1-3 PM  
ELMETE COMMUNITY ORCHARD AND  
OAKWOOD MARKET GARDEN, ELMETE LANE,  
ROUNDHAY LS8 2LJ

PASSION4PLANTS reap good to grow

## Oakwood Market Garden

Growing a variety of veg and salads for the community veg box scheme and monthly sales at Oakwood Farmers Market. The group had a Community Blossom event planned in the Orchard and Wild flower meadow – unfortunately this was postponed due to bad weather, new date TBC.

### Meanwood Valley Urban Farm – Market Garden

Places available on the Veg Box scheme.

Perfect if you are looking for locally grown vegetables and FREE farm membership?

Sign up today at

<https://www.mvuf.org.uk/garden/csa/>



### Horsforth Community Garden

Lots of great work happening in the community garden, the raised beds are complete, and herbs, fruit trees and bushes planted. We are also delighted to report that the council have agreed a 3 month community composting trial at Drury Field Community Orchard, in partnership with Horsforth Climate Action and Compost Collective Leeds.

We joined forces to support [Friends of Horsforth Hall Park](#) with their new regular Saturday health & wellbeing gardening session. Great to spend time with other volunteers and get to know them and their green space. The group will meet again on Saturday 18th May.

### Incredible Edible Leeds

Gemma confirmed that IE celebrated its 9<sup>th</sup> Birthday at the Station Pub in Guiseley. The number of groups across the city is increasing <https://www.incredibleedible.org.uk/find-a-group/#list> and Gemma is working hard to promote community growing and LVLs. She has been working with Leeds Wood Recycling to develop a flat pack LVL which groups can purchase....more details in the future.

### Rainbow Junktion

Paul M confirmed that the food bank is no longer operating on a Friday – the demand was too great. In 2024 so far, they have served an average of 233 households a week - 284 on the busiest day! “After 4 years of running our brilliant Friday Foodshare, we have decided to close for a couple of months in order to step back and rebuild a more sustainable service. We will be closed on Fridays from the 19th April, looking to reopen on Fridays before the Summer holidays.”

## 3. Climate Change Updates

No specific actions to record, but FL activities contribute to reducing Climate Change by encouraging local food growing and so reducing food miles. Agreed we do not need a specific section for this in future.

## 4. AOB

**Leeds Parks Forum Adam, MVUF** is a member of Leeds Parks and Green Spaces Forum. One of their Priorities going forward is: “To facilitate the introduction of Food-growing in parks and green spaces where appropriate, partnering with Feed Leeds and the Incredible Edible movement”. The Chair of Leeds Parks and Green Spaces Forum, Lynda Kitching, and Rob Moores, Chair of Feed Leeds will be exploring ways we can work together.

**Permaculture Events and FL Socials** – Proposal for joint socials with FL and Leeds Permaculture Network. Pete Tatham proposed that we should join forces to develop a social programme for members of both networks. By combining events we hope to boost numbers attending and by working together we hope to be able to offer evenings with talks or themes. There are a number of organisations who might be interested in working together on this as well (IE, Foodwise, LGAN) so they should be included in planning. The Imagine Leeds Climate action Hub could be used as a central venue.

**ACTION Rob and Pete** to meet and set up a subgroup to look at dates and locations so a monthly programme can be developed.

**Lush at White Rose and Grants** - At Lush giving is a big part of what we do, and we like to help grassroots groups that are making a difference in our community.

One way we do this is by hosting ‘Charity Pot Events’ in store. At these events we work with a local charity or campaign group, hosting them for a weekend in store, helping them to reach out to our customers, and donating all the process (minus tax) from sales of our Charity Pot hand and body lotion to the nominated organisation. To share your groups details for consideration please complete this [form](#)

Lush also have Grants available to groups – more info can be found here <https://weare.lush.com/lush-life/our-giving/charity-pot-funding-guidelines/>

**The Planet Card**, a collaboration between [Cardiff Farmers Markets](#), [Food Cardiff](#), and a group of organic growers, social enterprises and community organisations. This will be a focus of discussion at a future FL meeting, or possibly one of the joint socials.

### Save the date:

**Space2** Spring & Summer timetable <https://space2.org.uk/whatson/>

**Leeds School Food Matters** Leeds primary school children became market traders for a day, selling their own school-grown fruit and vegetables to the public. The Market Day will be held at Kirkgate Market on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July 12-2pm. It’s a very jolly event. Bring along a bag to put your school-grown produce in.

**Far Headingley Village Society Clean Air Day celebration and street fair** Sunday 16 June, from 11:00 until 4:00 Please do let us know if you are coming, so we can start to plan where you will all fit in this year. We are hoping this year’s event will be even better than last year’s: more stalls, more food and more family fun. More people, too, of course. Fingers crossed for good weather! Contact Joe Foster [joe.foster@me.com](mailto:joe.foster@me.com) to ask for a stall or to offer help.

## Grow Careers North Conference – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May at Harewood House

Chartered Institute of  
**Horticulture**

Grow Careers Day North


# Boost your personal growth

Join us for a day of inspiration and opportunities exploring the various careers available in the horticultural industry, in the magnificent setting of Harewood House, Leeds.

- Open to horticultural students, school leavers, career-changers and early-career horticulturists
- Hear from industry professionals and guest speakers
- Meet potential employers and industry representatives
- Discover the range of horticultural careers and opportunities
- FREE for participants, lunch included

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May**  
Harewood House  
Leeds, LS17 7NLG  
E-mail: [northern@horticulture.org.uk](mailto:northern@horticulture.org.uk)

**grow**  
the horticultural industry



### Date of Next Meeting

w/c 17<sup>th</sup> June (in person tbc)

I do hope you are able to join us.

Many thanks!

Rosie A & SJ