



Feed Leeds In-Person Meeting at Horsforth Community Garden

Wednesday 4th September 4pm

ATTENDEES

Rob Moores (FL Chair, Passion4Plants), **Rosie Atkins** (FL secretary –minutes, FL Farm group), **Sonja Woodcock** (FL Treasurer, Leeds Food Coordinator at FoodWise Leeds), **Penny Pinn** (FL, Horsforth Community Café & Garden), **Sarah-Jane Mason** (FL secretary – minutes, RHS), **Dan Robinson** (FL, Incredible Edible Leeds), **Gemma Hoban** (Incredible Edible Leeds), **Christine and Barry Martin** (Horsforth Community Garden), **Sue Bray** (Horsforth Community Garden), **Alison Varley** (RHS Community Outreach)

APOLOGIES

Jo Cartwright (Swillington Organic Farm), **Tony Riley** (IE Shadwell), **Becky Mears** (FL, IE Aireborough / Season Well CIC), **Ed Elcock** and **Niall Johnson** (Yorkshire Mushroom Emporium); **Virginia Morandi** (Ginny) (Fruitworks coop), **Ama Chaney** (Grow to School), **Camille Thomas** (FL, Space2), **Clarrie Ramsden** (FL, Climate Action Seacroft), **Paul Magnall** (FL, Rainbow Junktion), **Emma Andrews** (FL), **Alan Thornton** (Fruitworks coop), **Lynn Brown** (IE Meanwood), **Rosie Hall** (FL, LAF Secretary)

Horsforth Community Garden Tour www.facebook.com/HorsforthCommunityGarden/

Many thanks to Penny Pinn and the volunteers with Horsforth Community Garden for showing us the fantastic progress they have achieved since acquiring permission from the council to develop the site in 2021 (see images below).



The group have successfully applied to numerous funding pots to develop the garden over the last 3 years, working to a plan agreed by the group and drawn out by a volunteer. Initially growing beds were created at ground level and the group planted these up with edibles. Next came the path installation, this was a priority to make the space accessible for all. Once the paths were in place then the raised beds and entrance gate were added.

The group also have a fruit orchard on site and herb beds as well as trained fruit and annual veg. Feed Leeds were particularly impressed seeing the traffic light harvesting system in action.



Horsforth Community Garden has 3 compost bins. In addition, the Compost Collective Horsforth has community composting bins at West End School/ Inspiration Nursery, funded through Compost Collective Leeds/Zest and a trial site funded through Horsforth Climate Action, supported by Compost Collective Leeds, on Drury Field (a green space near a local housing estate) with 23 members.

This is the first time that Leeds Parks and Countryside have agreed to site a community composting project on their land. The 3 months trial lasts until mid-November. So far it has been successful, with none of the problems LCC were concerned about, eg vandalism, litter, rats.



Horsforth Climate Action supported the West End project by funding 20 more compost caddies to be given to school parents to help collect compost at home to bring to the community compost bins.

Their next project for the group is installing a circular area of paving in the centre of the garden with a mosaic of the groups Sunflower logo in the centre.

Minutes of previous meeting

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

1. Feed Leeds Current projects

Get Growing Leeds Campaign (inc LVL and Sow a Row Xtra) - '#Get GrowingLeeds' Harvest Celebration event on Saturday 12th October 9.30-12.30 at Gipton Fire Station.

The LVL group are planning a Harvest Celebration to bring the #GetGrowingLeeds campaign to a close for this year. There will be opportunities for groups to share their growing experiences, what was most successful (inc. photos) and recipes they have used with their harvests. Becky will demonstrate making flatbreads and a Dukkah seasoning (using local seeds). Everyone will have a chance to taste these alongside a soup and seasonal salads.

Zoe will be marketing the event for us on social media, as this was so successful earlier this year and really contributed to the success of the campaign in engaging a wide range of groups.

Farm Group the group have successfully achieved funding from Farm for the Future for a 1 year research project to research the feasibility of locally grown beans and pulses being part of the local food supply chain. In October the group will host a workshop with key partners and the funder to discuss what they wish to achieve. They are also planning a trip to Hodmedods in Suffolk to see how they have created a successful business incorporating locally grown beans and pulses <https://hodmedods.co.uk> learning from their experiences and discussing best practice.

There were discussions around the £38m investment to create the Centre for Alternative Proteins at the University. The centre will be hosted by the University of Leeds and co-led by the James Hutton Institute, the University of Sheffield, and Imperial College London.

This is a positive step towards developing less reliance on meat proteins in our diet. Alternative proteins (AP) are derived from sources other than animals. They include terrestrial and aquatic plants such as cereals, legumes, tubers and nuts; fungus such as mushrooms; algae such as seaweed; insects; proteins derived via biomass or precision fermentation, and cultured (lab-grown) meat.

Feed Leeds Consultation –Ed, Rob and Rosie have developed the consultation format and questions and have developed a list of key stakeholders to approach, including our membership and wider local organisations involved in growing, such as the Green Spaces Forum, Market Gardens, . The mailing list is being finalised ready to send out the consultation and Rob will share with the committee for testing.

ACTION Rob share the consultation with the FL committee for testing and then send out to all stakeholders during Autumn so responses can be collated and shared before the 2025 AGM.

ACTION Sonja share the consultation with the FoodWise Committee members.

2. FL Members updates

Foodwise

Sonja updated the group about the Leeds Capacity Building discussions she had with Richard Choksey from Social Farms and Gardens (SF&G). SF&G support organisations offering nature-based community activities and could help to put together a funding application for a paid member of staff to support and develop the green networks in Leeds. This role is based on the [training and networking project](#) SF&G already successfully delivers in London and would allow groups to plan, promote and co-deliver events such as the monthly socials a number of groups would like to offer and also apply for further funding for projects to develop in the city network and activity.

The FL committee will meet on the 9th September to discuss what this support could look like for Leeds and who the key stakeholders would be. Sonja will work with groups and SF&G to develop joint aims and a delivery model to take this forward.

Fruitworks

The team of 4 at Fruit Works Co-operative are busy with the fruit harvest season so couldn't join the meeting but shared the following updates.

- Completed 28 juicing sessions with community groups and schools all over Leeds and Bradford.
- Fruit will be available to buy at the Chapel Allerton Fruit Stall, Headingley Greengrocer and a few local markets.
- Shortly launching 10 workshop training programme covering planting, pruning, grafting and harvesting.
- This winter starting development of a big new site in the Belle Isle area.

Separately, looking to recruit a young (16-25) apprentice in Bradford/Shipley/Keighley.

ACTION All Please contact Fruitworks if you or anyone you know might be interested hello@fruitworks.org.uk

Incredible Edible Leeds (IE Leeds)

There are now 20 IE groups set up across Leeds with Edible Growing Spaces in their community and more ready to startup next year. It has been a very busy year for the team arranging Sustainability Festival events in the Spring, Completing and reporting on their Lottery Funded project in Summer and so they have taken a well-earned rest over the school holidays.

Their next event is planned on the 3rd October - The Town and Country Planning (TCPA) **Harvest Supper event**, hosted in collaboration with **Incredible Edible Leeds** will take place at the Carriage works. Join them for a delicious evening filled with good food and great company, while they launch the TCPA's latest resource, '**Practical Hope: Inspiration for Community Action**' – which celebrates a number of community groups who are leading the way for innovation and creativity when it comes to taking action in their local area regenerating, creating or repairing green spaces for biodiversity, food and climate benefits for their local community.

ACTION AII Find out more about the programme and book your free place at <https://www.tcpa.org.uk/event/tcpa-harvest-supper-in-person-free-event/>

There were discussions around how difficult it is to arrange catering for events using locally sourced produce. For example some procurement teams in larger organisations have a target to source all food from within a 40 mile radius (for example) but many do not stipulate that it is also locally grown. Other smaller organisations are more able to source the locally grown produce but this often involves working with a number of suppliers rather than a wholesaler. There are all issues with competing with costs of mass-produced produce for local growers and that a 'premium' on locally grown food should be in place to ensure that costs do not prohibit the use of local produce where possible. This led onto discussions about access to fresh fruit and vegetables locally through farmers markets and that here too the costs are prohibitive and that food vouchers, preloaded payment cards have been used in cities to encourage purchase of fresh locally produced food as an alternative or supplement to supermarkets/foodbanks.

Royal Horticultural Society Outreach

Alison updated the group on the Healing Garden project at St James Hospital which they hope to complete in the next 12 months <https://eastsidestory.uk/2023/03/16/rhs-healing-garden-comes-to-leeds/>

Alongside this project the RHS have been developing a Food for Thought network - working with growing groups around the hospital offering workshops and training to help them create new spaces or develop skills <https://eastsidestory.uk/2024/06/15/new-herb-garden-brings-people-together-in-harehills/>. RHS partnered with Season Well to co design and deliver a series of seasonal skill share workshops. These covered a variety of topics including winter fruit tree pruning from Fruit Works, how to make a Little Veg Library, composting with Camille from Gipton growers, spring bulb planting and preserving the harvest with Season Well. RHS provided a Tour of the Kitchen Garden at Harlow Carr with Joe Lofthouse, Edibles Team Leader which the groups found very useful.

They also collaborated with the Arium to donate over 6,000 herb plug plants to schools, communities. Some groups also took part in workshops to plant them up and discuss aftercare. They hope to repeat this next year with vegetable plug plants.

Moving forward the RHS would like to ensure the groups develop and connect with other groups through organisations like the [Leeds Green Activity Provider](#) and FL Networks and will be planning a forum to bring groups together.

The RHS would like to plan a forum for the future.

3. AOB

AGM Planning - Monday 24th February 2025, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm

The date for the AGM celebration event proposed was Monday 24th February.

ACTION Rosie A To book the Epicentre and Barn Coffee Shop at MVUF.

The committee wish to keep to the same format as this year as it was a lovely engaging event celebrating the growing across the city. The Food Growing Awards were a great addition to the evening and Sonja agreed to share the categories with the committee for review so we can set up a nomination/voting system.

ACTION Sonja share the Food Growing Award categories with the committee for review so we can set up a nomination/voting system.

Proposed programme for the evening:

Voting in the 2025 FL committee

1minute Pecha kucha style updates from round the room

The Food Growing Awards *potential revision of categories and inclusion of presenter & prizes? We could approach Cllr Abigail Marshall Katung, Leeds Lord Mayor and Food Champion*

Networking *could we provide an icebreaker to ensure people mix?*

Meal

ACTION SJ Review the costs and numbers if we host on eventbrite or a different platform like Ticket Tailor.

FL Website Update – Paul Magnall will be putting a proposal together to refresh the website to make clearer what are current projects and give the committee the opportunity to update the site more easily with recent content/news. The maps are really useful but very out of date and some projects/links need archiving as they are quite old.

Fundraiser with LUSH

“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.”

LUSH hosted the FL team (SJ and Rosie A) for a weekend of awareness raising in their White Rose branch as part of their monthly ‘Charity Pot Events’. We raised £15 in cash donations on the day and LUSH donated a % of their profits to us totalling £74.03. In total £89.03 was raised and this will be put towards subsidising the costs of the AGM.

Groups wishing to learn more about the scheme or register interest can find out more here https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfdSFLqyGGvI_5kAwN8RRwf2t_HcrzEhae4ITGdpaPXDtXfsQ/viewform but be aware they are not taking applications currently.

Joint Socials with Leeds Green Activity Network Sonja confirmed that the Climate Action Hub relocation is almost complete and a new venue should be available soon. Once this is in place we will revisit the joint social discussions.

Emails from mailchimp SJ asked if there was any way we could use the info@feedleeds.org or a google mail email on mailchimp for mailings and sending invitations. The committee were happy for SJ to ask Paul M if this might be possible or not.

ACTION SJ Contact Paul to see how this might work and how/who could manage the mailbox if this was possible.

Member Events and Courses

Reminder to all our members that the Feed Leeds Potting Shed Facebook group can be used to share details of your events

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2014125295482415/>

Leeds Permaculture course commencing October 2024

The Leeds PDC has been running for 15+ years. The teachers are all accomplished permaculture designers and educators with varied interests in and around the city. This course is a hybrid between meeting in person for teaching and project visits and online evening sessions which builds on our experience over the last year and creates something very accessible and effective.

Book a place now

<https://www.leedspermaculturenetwork.org/courses.html>



Space2 Autumn 2024 Activities

A poster for Space2 Autumn 2024 Activities. It features a central graphic with the word 'ACTIVITIES' in large blue letters, 'AUTUMN 2024' below it, and a stylized 'SPACE2' logo with the tagline 'CREATE CHANGE'. To the left is a list of activities categorized by color: GROWING (green), CREATING (blue), WELLBEING (orange), EXERCISING (pink), and SOCIALISING (purple). Each category lists specific activities and their times. At the bottom right, the website 'SPACE2.ORG.UK' and social media icons are shown.

GROWING ...
DIPLOM BROWERS TUESDAYS 1:30pm - 3:30pm
THRIVE THURSDAYS 10am - 12pm

CREATING ...
SEWING 101 MONDAYS 1:30pm - 3:30pm
SPACE 2 CREATE TUESDAYS 4pm - 6pm 12-18 Yrs
RAGS TO RICHES WEDNESDAYS 10am - 12pm
DRAMA GROUP - BRAVE WORDS WEDNESDAYS 10am - 12pm
HEART 2 ART WEDNESDAYS 1pm - 2:30pm
THE ART ROOM WEDNESDAYS 4:30pm - 6:30pm
ARTWAVES THURSDAYS 2:30pm - 4pm

WELLBEING ...
MINDFULNESS FOR HEALTH MONDAYS 10am - 1pm

EXERCISING ...
TAI CHI TUESDAYS 10am - 11am & 11am - 12pm
SEASONAL CHANGE WALKS TUESDAYS 10am - 12pm
LEARN TO DANCE WEDNESDAYS 6pm - 7pm
CHAIR-BASED GENTLE EXERCISE THURSDAYS 10:30am - 11:30am
WANDERING & WONDERING THURSDAYS 10:15am - 11:15am

SOCIALISING ...
SEACROFT MEN'S GROUP TUESDAYS 9:30am - 12:30pm
POP-UP SHOP & CLOTHING REBELLION THURSDAYS 11am - 1pm
GREEN SHOOTS FRIDAYS 10am - 12pm
MEN'S PIE CLUB FRIDAYS 1pm - 3pm

SPACE2.ORG.UK

Funding from GMCVO Transpennine Route [Transpennine Route Upgrade Community Fund](#)

GMCVO are delivering a £175,000 grant programme on behalf of The Transpennine Route Upgrade (TRU) to improve local spaces and services along its 70-mile route between Manchester, Huddersfield, Leeds and York.

Funding is available in the form of small grants (£1,000 - £5,000) or medium grants (£5,000 - £20,000). Community projects [within 5 miles of the core TRU route and its key diversionary routes](#) will be eligible to receive funding.

Applications for small grants will be open Monday 5 August – Monday 16 September while applications for medium grants will be open Monday 19 August – Monday 30 September.

Date of Next Meeting

Our final meeting of 2024 will be held on Monday 18th November (online).

Save the date:

TBC AGM - Monday 24th February 2025, Meanwood Valley Urban Farm

If you are unable to attend, please share your news and updates before the meeting so they can be included in the minutes.

Many thanks!

Rosie A & SJ