



FeedingManchester #10 Minutes

Thursday 5th July 2012, 3pm – 7pm

The Yard
Work For Change
Hulme
Manchester
M15 5RE

Session 1: Introductions and the 'Wanted and Offered' Board

Rob Allen and Beth Creedon, *FeedingManchester* Coordinators, gave introductions to the meeting and introduced the 'Wanted and Offered' board to attendees.

The 'Wanted and Offered' board was at the entrance to the event and allowed attendees to post messages to each other using sticky paper notes. Separated into two sections, the board required people to post:

- **Wanted Ads:** if attendees had a particular problem that they needed help with, or required support and expertise to progress a particular project relating to sustainable food, they could seek other members of the group who had the relevant skills or experience.
- **Offered Ads:** attendees who thought that they could offer time and knowledge to help others to achieve their aims as individuals or as part of groups were invited to suggest what they could offer.

Attendees were encouraged to spend time at the break looking through the posts and, wherever possible, finding people who they thought they could help and/or could help them. After the event, the posts would all be retrieved by the *FeedingManchester* Coordinators and hosted on the website forum, shared on the minutes of the event and communicated via Twitter if possible.

Session 2: *feedingManchester* at forthcoming events

Rob and Beth gave details of a number of events happening in Greater Manchester during 2012 which provided attendees and their organisations/groups opportunities for exposure amongst audiences interested in growing, cooking and other sustainable food projects. Attendees were encouraged to consider playing part of a *FeedingManchester*/Foodlink Manchester presence, helping to illustrate the work that all associated individuals and groups to to further the sustainable food movement.

The following were discussed:

Manchester Food and Drink Festival – September 2012

Beth updated the group on current plans and reflected on the 2011 event whereby an unofficial 'sustainable fringe' gained promotion in the festival programme.

It was agreed that *FeedingManchester* would seek a page in the festival programme as in previous years and host details of all members' events on the website as and when they were announced, using that as the page where festival visitors would go to find out more about this year's 'Sustainable Fringe'

Tameside Food, Drink, Health and Well Being Festival – September 2012

Rob gave details of the Tameside Food, Drink, Health and Well Being Festival and the presence of *FeedingManchester*/Foodlink and the van which is available to us for cooking demonstrations/sampling. Gillian Bradley, organiser of the festival, also offered details on stall availability, current stall holders and availability.

Requests were made for attendees to speak to Rob about taking part in the event, taking advantage of the opportunity by collaborating on a joint presence at the market day on Saturday 29th September.

Feeding the 5K

Beth provided an update on the Feeding the 5K event, which is due to take place in October, rather than during the Manchester Food and Drink Festival as originally planned. The event seeks to highlight the issues of unnecessary food waste by feeding five thousand people with a dish created with commercially non-viable produce due to their physical attributes. The challenge of finding suppliers of unwanted vegetables was highlighted as a key issue and attendees were asked to consider how they, or growers associated with them could assist in making the event a success.

Envirolution

Beth highlighted the intention for *FeedingManchester* and associated projects, The Greater Manchester Land Army and Manchester Veg People, to attend Envirolution on Platt Fields Park in July and invited offers of help for the day.

Session 3: The Big Dig

Kirstin Glendinning from The Big Dig spoke to the group about the opportunities for both growers and volunteers presented by the series of events that will take place over the next year - The Big Dig Edible Gardens Open Day in September 2012, The Big Dig volunteering day in March 2013 and the Big Dig Harvest in September 2013.

Kirstin introduced herself and her role as coordinator of the Greater Manchester activity, actively seeking out growing spaces and projects that might benefit from the support of a nationally recognised event, providing assistance in publicity and promotion in order to attract local volunteers.

In addition to supporting growers with publicity, Kirstin explained that The Big Dig will create events and training opportunities for growers to be self-sufficient in hosting volunteer workshops and events. National and local websites will attract potential volunteers and signpost them to their nearest participating growing project.

Help was requested from attendees in suggesting community gardens, allotments etc. to

take part in The Big Dig. A map of Greater Manchester was provided, with stickers for attendees to mark up growing projects they were aware of in their local area during the break.

FeedingManchester are grateful to Kirstin for taking the time to speak to the group.

Session 5: Food Growing Workshops

A choice of two workshops was given to attendees, both provided by guests from the Community Land Advisory Service.

Workshop A) Leases and Licences: A Beginners Guide.

Jade Bashford, England Community Land Advisor, took attendees through the key considerations to keep in mind when negotiating a lease or a license, and the importance of securing different types of agreements for both land owners and growers. The presentation covered:

- Reasons for securing written agreements
- Contents of land agreements
- Different types of lease
- Requirements of both land owners and tenants

Exercises worked on in groups included mock negotiations between a land owner and a potential lease holder, designed to make individuals consider both sides of the discussion when approaching the requirements and contents of any lease agreement.

Workshop B) Planning Permission: A Beginner's Guide.

Rebecca Marshall led a technical and factual session for community groups in need of guidance through the planning maze.

Information was discussed concerning how best to engage with the planning office to create a good working relationship. The presentation covered:

- Defining what development is
- How the planning system works
- Identifying which consents are needed for a development
- How to make a planning application
- Alternatives to planning permission

FeedingManchester are grateful to both Jade and Rebecca for taking the time to attend the gathering and host these workshops. Thanks are also offered to Hulme Community Garden Centre for hosting Workshop B.

Session 6: Actions

Beth and Rob closed the meeting by gathering the 'Wanted and Offered' board posts together and asking for attendees to declare any links that had been made during the course of the afternoon. A number of attendees had made contact with each other and were planning to work together.

A request was made again for attendees to suggest venues for the next *FeedingManchester* gatherings.

On closing the meeting, attendees moved to Hulme Community Garden Centre for the annual *FeedingManchester* summer gathering and BBQ.

Next FeedingManchester dates

The following dates are provided as the next *FeedingManchester* meetings:

#11 Saturday 10th November all day, venue TBC

#12 Wednesday 6th March 10am- 3pm, venue TBC

Members are invited to suggest venues for the #11 and #12 meetings.

To make suggestions for future events, including guest speakers, workshops, discussions and specialist networking opportunities.

To contact the FeedingManchester Coordinators:

Rob Allen: rob@feedingmanchester.org.uk

Beth Creedon: beth@feedingmanchester.org.uk

POSTS FROM THE WANTED AND OFFERED BOARD

WANTED

Item	Name	Contact
Experienced and knowledgeable gardeners to lead the management of different parts of Phillips Park Fruit Garden AND/OR use it to demonstrate their skills to existing volunteers and other local people	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Volunteers with the expertise and time to manage the collection of fruit for the Apple Day/Abundance project	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Volunteers to help pick fruit as and when required	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Supporters of the idea of the Eco-Village and potential tenants/providers of services to use the premises – This is the proposal to take over derelict buildings in the centre of Philips Park, potentially restoring the main kitchen garden associated with the now demolished home of the Philips family, with sufficient land to make a meaningful contribution to the supply of local shops or homes, using part of the buildings as an office/space for gardening. Also a potential site for an aquaponics project.	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
The Moss Cider Project need a home – Dan and Joe are looking for a home in Moss Side – must have cheap rent	Dan and Joe	Dan 07968 378 022 Joe 07877 612 735

(peppercorn?) and include access to water and electricity.		
The Moss Cider Project need more apples – the project gives 50% back (wet weight) to apple donors	Dan and Joe	Dan 07968 378 022 Joe 07877 612 735
Help with publicity and promotion – Cracking Good Food cooking network – getting the project 'out there more'	Adele Jordan	adele@crackinggoodfood.org
Locally grown food delivered to my home in Salford, preferably for LETS currency	Helen Wallworth	helenw.101@gmail.com
Research – doing some research about food activities in Manchester (including Food Futures Partnership) and looking for people to chat to	Harriet White	harrietkwhite@gmail.com
Advice on a farming society to manage an allotment or community farm	Roger Warren	roger.warren@pos-landcare.com
Sustainable suppliers for start up cafe	Tess or Matt	brewboatco@gmail.com
Recommendations for a veggie sausage for an awesome butty	Tess or Matt	brewboatco@gmail.com
Help/advice to get rid of Japanese Knotweed	Pauline Mottram	paulinemottram@hotmail.com
Surplus produce for distribution	Debs	Abundancemanchester@yahoo.co.uk
Eco-builder for help with a simple, outdoor classroom	Helen at Debdale Eco Centre	hdodd@talktalk.net
Recycled materials to help build the Hulme Community Garden Centre extension – or a free building consultant	Jamie at Hulme Community Garden Centre	Info@hulmegardencentre.org.uk
Support with the 'Bolton Green Food Directory' – ie. Food that is locally produced.	Vicky Urmston	vicky@webshak.co.uk
Food growers north of Manchester/Burnley(ish) for box scheme	Charlotte Dean	charlotte.dean003@gmail.com
Anyone interested in working in partnership on our therapeutic gardening/veg bag scheme	Ed from Manchester Mind/Glebelands City Growers	Ed.Sweetman@manchestermind.org
People to join the Local Exchange Trading System (LETS currency) and trade – especially food!	Helen Wallworth	helenw.101@gmail.com
Local draughtsperson for perma design drawing – paid opportunity	Charlotte Dean	charlotte.dean003@gmail.com
Local landscape architects working closely with communities – paid opportunity	Charlotte Dean	charlotte.dean003@gmail.com
Local green building specialists – paid opportunity	Charlotte Dean	charlotte.dean003@gmail.com
Volunteers – for the Greater Manchester Land Army and The Big Dig	Helen or Kirstin at Kindling	helen@kindling.org.uk kirstin@kindling.org.uk
Advice or time to be spent on design or marketing ie. Design student	Kitchen Co-op	info@thekitchen.coop
Someone with knowledge/expertise to help us to clad our office cabins (steel containers)	Helen at Debdale Eco Centre	hdodd@talktalk.net

To find out what's happening in Manchester regarding sustainable food and organic farming	John Cameron	jcameronblackstone@gmail.com
Volunteers to belong to a steering group and to help whenever they can in growing food at the Rylands Kitchen Gardens Community Allotment in Longford Park, Stretford	Margaret Westbrook	mash.westbrook@gmail.com

Offered

Item	Name	Contact
South Clough Forest Garden – Existing woodland area once part of an allotment but uneven ground including some mature trees as well as relatively clear area which is currently being planted with fruit bushes – see Prestwich Clough Forest Garden Facebook Page	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Drinkwater Park 'Not-A-Lot-Ments' – A very small fraction of a former sewage works cleared by the Forestry Commission and prepared by them for community gardening as part of their restoration of the valley. We have individually managed/harvested unfenced plots and there is the opportunity to occupy more land, subject to further discussion.	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Philips Park Fruit Garden – Walled garden formerly occupied by fruit grown in glass houses, 'the vinery' but more recently overgrown and full of bits of concrete and rubbish. Now nearly cleared and occupied by new fruit garden which requires attention for harvest and care over next winter.	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Apple Day/Abundance – Apple Day event planned for 21 st October depends on the collection and processing of a large quantity of fruit from private gardens and public places. It would be great if we collect more than we need since we already have contacts with a community cafe which could use the surplus, moving towards a full scale Abundance project.	George Heron	george@heronbg.info
Cider Making Workshops with the Moss Cider Project	Dan and Joe	Dan 07968 378 022 Joe 07877 612 735
Juicing Services with the Moss Cider Project	Dan and Joe	Dan 07968 378 022 Joe 07877 612 735
Cider and Juices – for sale to individuals as well as trade customers	Dan and Joe	Dan 07968 378 022 Joe 07877 612 735
FREE TRAINING in organic food growing	Helen at Debdale Eco Centre	hdodd@talktalk.net

Advice on setting up a garden in a school	Matt	mattbadham@hotmail.com
Slugs! Accessible websites, blogs etc. for your group. Free for small groups.	Helen Wallworth	helenw.101@gmail.com
Opportunities to work with/join Salford Food Bank	Helen Wallworth	helenw.101@gmail.com
Publicity for your events on shop boards, website etc. via Unicorn Grocery	Debs Clarke	debbie@unicorn-grocery.co.uk
Offer to share information about events etc. through the Transition Town Bolton mailing list	Vicky Urmston	vicky@webshak.co.uk
Training opportunities for growing volunteers working with schools	Charlotte	charlotte.dean003@gmail.com
Workshops on social change or social ecology in the future if someone would find them useful	John	jcameronblackstone@gmail.com
Possible market available for locally grown vegetables	Ed – Manchester Mind/Glebelands City Growers	Ed.Sweetman@manchestermind.org
Food deliveries around Greater Manchester	Alan Creedon	manchestervegpeople@gmail.com
Training of volunteers in cooking environments – shadowing professional cooks!	Adele Jordan at Cracking Good Food	adele@crackinggoodfood.org
General planning advice for sustainable food/growing projects	Tess or Matt	brewboatco@gmail.com