

Forest Row Parish Council

Clerk: Mr David O'Driscoll
Email: parishclerk@forestrow.gov.uk



(Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm)

Community Centre
Hartfield Road
Forest Row
East Sussex
RH18 5DZ

To: All members of the COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMITTEE:
Cllrs. T Lewin (Chairman), Davies, Josephson, R Lewin,
Miller, Moore, Waters, Williams, Withers and Wogan

Tel: 01342 822661
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Dear Sir/Madam,
You are required to attend a meeting of the
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE to be held on
TUESDAY 20TH APRIL 2021 VIA ZOOM at
7.30pm.

Date: 14 April, 2021

Mr David O'Driscoll
Clerk to Forest Row Parish Council

THE FIRST FIFTEEN MINUTES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR RELEVANT QUESTIONS AND
REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC – IF ANY. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO
STAY AND OBSERVE THE REST OF THE MEETING.

AGENDA

1. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – the meeting will start no later than 7.45pm.
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
3. **TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION PERTAINING TO THE FOLLOWING ITEMS (INCLUDING DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS)**
4. RECORDS OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9TH FEBRUARY 2021
 - 4.1 To approve the minutes of the meeting of 9TH FEBRUARY 2021
 - 4.2 To consider any objections to deletion of the digital recording of that meeting
5. CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING
6. CLERK'S REPORT ON MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION
 - 6.1 Carbon footprint audit
 - 6.2 FRPC utility usage
 - 6.3 'Crossover' projects
7. TO NOTE FINANCIAL REPORT to 2020-21 year end
8. **CURRENT SERVICES: TO NOTE REPORTS**
 - 8.1 Market
 - 8.2 Medical car service
 - 8.3 Hearing aid service
 - 8.4 EV charging unit
 - 8.5 Community helpline
 - 8.6 'Gages' community lunches
 - 8.7 Thursday Club
 - 8.8 Repair Café
 - 8.9 Forest Row Business Group
 - 8.10 Youth Service

9. **SERVICE DEVELOPMENT: TO NOTE REPORT
MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION/DECISION**
10. To consider the community service aspect of the 'Grow in Forest Row' proposal.
11. To consider a proposal for 'youth sculpture project'.
12. CORRESPONDENCE
13. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION BY THIS COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL

“This meeting will be held electronically via ZOOM, and the meeting ID and password will be circulated separately to Members. The meeting is also open to public attendance (with an initial period for public questions), but for security reasons, any member of the public wishing to participate is asked to telephone or email the Parish Clerk in advance (01342 822661 or parishclerk@forestrow.gov.uk) for the access codes.”

**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
BACKING PAPERS FOR MEETING 20th APRIL 2021**

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7	Financial report	3-4
8.1-8.5	Report (Sue Young) on: market/ medical transport/ hearing aid service/ EV charging unit/ community helpline	5
8.6-8.7	Report (Sandra Ayles) on: Gages / Thursday Club	6
8.8-8.9	Report (Sara Smart) on: Repair café/ FR business group	7
8.10	Report (Melissa Rey-Mesher) on youth service	8
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11	Briefing note (Cllr T Lewin) on youth sculpture proposal	13

**COUNCILLORS' BRIEFING FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON 20th APRIL 2021**

1. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS** – It is possible (not definite) that a member of the public may wish to address the meeting in support of item 10 on the agenda.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - None indicated in advance
3. **TO DECLARE ANY INTERESTS OR REQUEST DISPENSATION** Members who have a financial interest in any of the items covered by this agenda may wish to declare a personal interest. But Members need to be realistic and observe a sensible 'de minimis' judgement, otherwise the provision becomes trivialised.
4. **TO DEAL WITH RECORDS OF MEETING.** Meeting of 9th February 2021.
5. **CLARIFICATION OF ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING** Any points of information arising from the previous meeting that can be dealt with briefly.
ACTION: to discharge as appropriate
7. **CLERK'S REPORT ON PROGRESS (MATTERS NOT REQUIRING A DECISION)**
 - 7.1 Carbon Footprint audit. Committee resolved on 9th February to defer this issue until the pandemic had 'stabilised'. This will clearly not be the case until at least June.
 - 7.2 Utility usage. Committee resolved on 9th February to defer this issue also until the pandemic had 'stabilised'.
 - 7.3 'Crossover projects'. There are now a number of groups in Forest Row which are in a broad sense undertaking community services - for instance, *Frocal* and *Ashdown Hub*. It is arguable that in some respects they are covering areas where the Parish Council should have taken responsibility, but where it has been slow to act, and the 'needs gap' has been filled by private initiative.
Be that as it may, it is important for the Council to work in partnership with these organisations, to provide reciprocal support for the benefit of the community and avoid duplication of effort. This forms an important part of the current remit of our Community Development Officer, and it is important that the Council maintains a single point of contact, again to maximise cooperation and avoid mixed messages. Sara Smart reports regularly on her efforts in this area.
It is therefore appropriate – necessary, in fact – that external initiatives with which we are engaging are brought to the attention of this Committee, to try and maintain an integrated overview and determine what our proper input should be. On the other hand, it is inevitable that some of this work will involve other areas of the Council's responsibility – its land or other services. For instance, the recent request by traders to make use of village green land for outdoor dining, or the proposal for a weekly food market.
There are therefore likely to be a number – possibly an increasing number - of initiatives which qualify as 'crossover' projects with implications for more than one Committee. It is important under our present structure to respect these crossover points and allow the appropriate Committee(s) to have their say. However, the overriding objective is to serve the community's needs, not the internal workings of

the Council. It is therefore also critical that matters are dealt with expeditiously and cooperatively between Committees, with single issue extra-ordinary meetings being used if necessary to move matters forward.

ACTION: to note

7. **FINANCIAL REPORT to 2020-21 year end**
Year end procedures were completed on 13th April, and a final printout for the Community Services account is attached. The final figures were: income 75.3% of forecast and expenditure 57.7% of forecast, the percentages reflecting the restricted activity during the pandemic. The market put in a strong performance despite cancellations, while Gages performed particularly well (the overspend on equipment being offset by an emergency grant from Wealden).
ACTION: to note
8. **CURRENT SERVICES.** These are covered by the reports within the backing papers from Sue Young, Sandra Aylen, Sara Smart (part 1) and Melissa Rey-Mesher. Please raise any queries in advance of the meeting.
ACTION: to note
9. **SERVICE DEVELOPMENT.** These matters are dealt with in Sara Smart's report (part 2). This report also contains details of the proposal in item 10.
ACTION: to note
10. **THE 'GROW IN FOREST ROW' PROPOSAL.** Please see the appropriate section of Sara Smart's part 2 report.
ACTION: to consider & resolve as appropriate
11. **'YOUTH SCULPTURE PROJECT' PROPOSAL.** The Chairman of Committee has supplied a brief note on this proposal.
ACTION: to consider & resolve as appropriate
12. **CORRESPONDENCE.** None not already circulated in Councillors Reading.
13. **ITEMS FOR REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE OR FULL COUNCIL**

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 14/04/2021

Month No: 12

Committee Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
<u>Localism & Community Projects</u>							
<u>206 Community Transport</u>							
2677 Car Hire Club Income	644	13,000	12,356			5.0%	
2678 Medical Car Scheme Income	113	300	187			37.7%	
4180 Misc Income	645	0	(645)			0.0%	
Community Transport :- Income	1,402	13,300	11,898			10.5%	0
2554 Wealdlink	916	900	(16)		(16)	101.8%	
2601 Voluntary Medical Car Service	45	200	155		155	22.5%	
2602 Car Hire Club	3,780	13,000	9,220		9,220	29.1%	
Community Transport :- Indirect Expenditure	4,741	14,100	9,359	0	9,359	33.6%	0
Net Income over Expenditure	(3,339)	(800)	2,539				
<u>207 Market</u>							
3184 CC-Market Income	6,181	6,000	(181)			103.0%	
Market :- Income	6,181	6,000	(181)			103.0%	0
3151 CC-Market expenditure	1,076	1,300	224		224	82.7%	
Market :- Indirect Expenditure	1,076	1,300	224	0	224	82.7%	0
Net Income over Expenditure	5,105	4,700	(405)				
<u>209 Localism & Community Proj Misc</u>							
2905 Repair Cafe & Wellbeing Servic	1,092	2,000	908			54.6%	
Localism & Community Proj Misc :- Income	1,092	2,000	908			54.6%	0
2700 Repair Cafe & Wellbeing	1,357	2,000	643		643	67.9%	
Localism & Community Proj Misc :- Indirect Expenditure	1,357	2,000	643	0	643	67.9%	0
Net Income over Expenditure	(265)	0	265				
<u>304 Cafe</u>							
3480 Gages - Sales	22,831	20,000	(2,831)			114.2%	
Cafe :- Income	22,831	20,000	(2,831)			114.2%	0
3436 Gages-Purchase of Equipment	1,416	1,000	(416)		(416)	141.6%	
3460 Gages -Purchases Food etc	10,211	12,000	1,789		1,789	85.1%	
Cafe :- Indirect Expenditure	11,628	13,000	1,372	0	1,372	89.4%	0
Net Income over Expenditure	11,203	7,000	(4,203)				

Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 14/04/2021

Month No: 12

Committee Report

	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
306 Thursday Club							
3680 TC-Subscriptions	0	400	400			0.0%	
Thursday Club :- Income	<u>0</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>400</u>			<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0</u>
3636 TC-Running Costs	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
Thursday Club :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>0.0%</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>0</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>(600)</u>				
406 Youth Provision							
4676 YP-Grants & Other Income	632	1,000	368			63.2%	
Youth Provision :- Income	<u>632</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>368</u>			<u>63.2%</u>	<u>0</u>
4603 YP - Dev costs & General Expen	485	2,000	1,515		1,515	24.3%	
Youth Provision :- Indirect Expenditure	<u>485</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>1,515</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,515</u>	<u>24.3%</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>147</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(1,147)</u>				
Localism & Community Projects :- Income	32,138	42,700	10,562			75.3%	
Expenditure	19,288	33,400	14,112	0	14,112	57.7%	
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>12,851</u>						
Grand Totals:- Income	32,138	42,700	10,562			75.3%	
Expenditure	19,288	33,400	14,112	0	14,112	57.7%	
Net Income over Expenditure	<u>12,851</u>	<u>9,300</u>	<u>(3,551)</u>				
Movement to/(from) Gen Reserve	<u>12,851</u>						

REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
20th APRIL 2021

FOREST ROW VILLAGE MARKET

The first two markets were a great success with stallholders reporting record sales, the market planned for the 1st May is fully booked and plans are to continue with the social distancing measures, use of face coverings by stallholders & customers and the one way system.

We currently have in excess of 55 people on our waiting list and I am in the process of seeing whether it would be possible to have a separate market where stallholders bring their own equipment (much in line with other street markets) or whether it would be possible in June to have one extremely large market utilising the village green and car park.

MEDICAL TRANSPORT

Drivers are in the process of taking clients to their 2nd vaccination appointments and are running a normal service.

HEARING AID MAINTENANCE

Once the community centre reopens we will be able to recommence hearing aid maintenance and are continuing to give out batteries to clients needing this service.

CAR CHARGING UNIT

Nothing to report.

FOREST ROW COVID-19 HELPLINE

Although this helpline number is still functioning there have been no calls except for a few for the Forest Row Community Fridge Foodbank which have been passed on.

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT 20th April 2021

GAGES

We have been busy serving lunches since the beginning of the year. Alison Harman, our regular Thursday volunteer chef, generously offered to cook on Tuesdays as well from the beginning of March until the end of May which has been greatly appreciated by our customers.

We hope to re-open Gages to the public on the 20th May for 1 day that week and then open on the 26th & 28th May the week after but will still offer home deliveries to those not wishing or are able to return. This is so that we can ease staff & volunteers and customers in gently. After these trials we hope we can open to diners following strict government guidelines on all 3 days, Wednesday – Friday, commencing the first week in June when we stop the Tuesday service as Alison will be unavailable. We would like to give our thanks to Alison for her time during this time.

Figures taken from our daily records since 27th January 2021 (Last Community Services report) These figures include both periods of being open 3 & 4 days a week up until 9th April 2021

	Total Deliveries	Diners to Gages	Soup	Main	Veggie	Dessert	Frozen
11 Week Period	790	0	347	613.5	176	505	28
Average per week	71.8	0	31.5	55.7	16	45.9	2.5
Average per day	20.7	0	9.1	16	4.6	13.2	

THURSDAY CLUB

Our members are still being spoilt by the Frow Friends Befriending team with their lovely treat bags.

We are hoping to have our members come back on the 20th May 2021. I have booked out 3 rooms at the community centre so that we can adhere to the rule of 6.

Sandra Ayles
9th April 2021



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING 20th APRIL 2021 (pt 1)

REPAIR CAFÉ After attending a meeting of the South East Repair Café Coordinators Group on 14th March where there was much discussion on how and when to reopen Repair Cafes safely, and with the Governments roadmap plans now in place and on target, I am planning to reopen our Repair Café on May 22nd adhering to the rule of six. I have moved the date by one week to allow us to do this and will also move the June date accordingly to the 26th of June when all being well the country will be fully open to all.

The strict plans I had in place last year, for when we opened in September, under the same lockdown restrictions will be used again utilising our new gazebos to allow us to have more outdoor space and keep people as safe as possible.

I have had an overwhelmingly positive response from my volunteers, who are all keen to get the service back up and running so this is excellent news. I will now start to publicise this on social media and local press.

We plan to be back up and running properly in our normal 3rd Saturday a month slot from July 17th.

FOREST ROW BUSINESS GROUP The Business Group have plans in place to run a Mayday Trail on Saturday 1st May in conjunction with the Forest Row Market from 10.30-3pm.

There will be 20 businesses taking part around the village, helping to promote and showcase what the village has to offer now that shops are reopen. It will follow the same format as the Christmas one, with letters to discover in the window of each shop/business taking part so that we can promote social distancing rules.

Cllr Mike McNally has kindly offered to give out the prizes at the end point of the trail again, which we are very grateful for, this will be over at the VENUE on the GREEN to highlight and promote our youth services too.

We do need help on the start and end points on the day, so if you have an hour to spare on that day please do let me know.



**Before you bin it,
see if the Repair Café can help.**

We provide a free repair service for everything from bikes, electrical appliances, fabrics, watches, ceramics, laptops to costume jewellery. Join us for cake and a hot drink while you wait to see your repairer. No charge is made, but donations are very welcome.

[Find us on Facebook](#)



REPAIR CAFÉ
SATURDAY EVERY MONTH
10.00-12.00 WITH
LAST ORDERS
TAKEN AT 12.30PM

2021 DATES
19th September
16th October
13th November

NEW PROPOSED DATES
22nd May
19th June
17th July
13th August
10th September
14th October
11th November

FIND US AT
The Community Centre
Harmful Road
Forest Row
SUSSEX BN20 9JL

Community Services Report

February -April 2021

General

It has been a difficult time in terms of provision delivery. The staff team have held weekly Zoom meeting to connect and to plan for when we re-open ideas for development that we will work towards.

We have been planning for a 4-week pilot Summer Activities Club that we will run throughout August. We will include more details of this closer to the time.

The youth workers have delivered weekly support groups face to face @ The VENUe on a Wednesday for 2 hours. The groups have been well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by the youth. We have planned the groups weekly as a staff team and have focused on Well-being and Mindfulness.

The Support groups have now come to an end as we are hoping to re-open on Monday 19th April if restrictions allow for this.

MM has been talking with Sean Smith from Forest Row Primary to promote the service. The youth workers have decided that when we re-open we would like to offer year 5 and 6 the opportunity to attend sessions. We feel that after the year that we have all had that it would benefit the youth to have as much social interaction as possible.

MM has been supporting Rosie Youngman alongside SS weekly with the delivery of the support group for 18–24-year-olds. It has been slow to start but things are picking up and Rosie is going to be focusing on promotion this week and has plans for themed/focused sessions over the coming weeks.

MM has been working closely with SS and making connections and having meetings with other local groups and individuals to look at ways in which we could potentially partnership work.

MM has a meeting with a woman from the Ashdown Hub to discuss and set up a referral process for young people that would benefit from support from our service or perhaps one to one in the form of mentoring etc.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER REPORT

FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES MEETING 20th APRIL 2021 (pt 2)

FROW FRIENDS SHED I submitted a report to David O'Driscoll for the last Full Council meeting to be considered for part of the Anna Bendall legacy. I am considering options to build our own shed or convert existing sheds in the Jubilee garden as I am not having any success in finding a space to hire/loan/rent. My least favoured option is to start up the group without a home by using the main hall of the community centre or the VENUe, as the purpose of the group is to have a safe space which the group can identify as their own.

ALLOTMENT PROJECT The plan to start a Parish Council allotment where different groups including Thursday Club, The VENUe and Dementia Friends groups, could go and work a patch could be possible this year. Janet Lamprell and I have been looking at plots that are suitable for access and one is due to become available late summer. The project will be coordinated by a volunteer in conjunction with myself. There are grants available for this kind of work so I will be looking into applying for these. The FRow Shed members could get started on making raised beds and a bench as a first project for the allotment.



FROW FRIENDS BEFRIENDING/THURSDAY CLUB COLLABORATION

FRow Friends Befriending is continuing to work with the Parish Council to support our Thursday Club members during this time by producing a newsletter and treat bag for each of our members. Since my last report there has been a February bag given out for Valentine's day and a Spring bag given out to 41 happy members on Good Friday, this is all being generously funded by FRow Friends Befriending. I have copies of the newsletter if you would like to see it, I

can send it as an email attachment if you would rather a digital copy.

Thursday Club will be reopening in May but please see Sandra Ayles's report for full details.

COLLABORATIVE WORKING AND DEVELOPMENT

At the last Community Service meeting I brought forward a plan to support a wellbeing group for 18-24-year-olds in collaboration with Mel Mesher and our youth service. This has now commenced with Rosie Youngman, the Coop's Community and Shared Value Coordinator, leading the sessions with Mel and I attending in a

volunteer capacity to support. We believe the membership will grow as the group becomes more established as with many such groups. This kind of collaboration is vitally important and an area I feel we should be focusing on going forward. Mel Mesher and I are continuing to look at funding for projects and workshops to support the wellbeing of our youth in the community.

TRAINING: I am now a Mental Health First Aider after completing a half day training with Mental Health First Aid England, a really interesting course that has given me an insight into areas we as a Parish Council could look to support in the community.

DEMENTIA FRIEND SESSIONS: To become a Dementia Friendly organisation we need to all complete the training and watch the video on their website, the personalised link that you need to access this short training is:

https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/DF_WEBC_PartnerVideos?page=videos-for-organisations#.YHBfM8-SIPb and then please enter the code **For11102**

I had a few issues with access which is why I have been delayed in sharing it with you all. I hope you find it useful and informative. If you have any problems with the link please do let me know.

The collaborative dementia work we can do with Wealden Dementia Action Alliance will be enhanced by us being a Dementia Friendly Parish Council.

GROW IN FOREST ROW: I was invited to a meeting to hear about this new project hoping to start within the village soon. I have since had a meeting with Ffion Thomas to discuss how the Parish Council could support it by providing some PC owned planters and flower beds to trial the project.

Ffion, Don Isted, and I have been around the village looking at the available planters and beds that this project could work in, and the ones she mentions at the Community Centre are the herb planter outside the Cube, the courtyard with the 4 planters to the left of The Cube and the garden area next to the flagpole. Newlands Place lends itself well to this project with 2 of the brick planters and Don was very happy to support them in getting it started.

It would not cost us any extra maintenance hours as Don and Harry would normally be maintaining these areas anyway, and the only admin costs would be a little bit of time in promotion as Ffion gets it off the ground. Ffion wants to start small and manageable so this seems a very positive way in which the Parish Council can support the wellbeing side of this project which links into many projects we already support or propose going forward.

PROPOSAL: I would like the Parish Council to agree to a pilot project with Ffion, using our planters to get this venture started with the understanding that if they become unmanageable or not maintained we will take back control of them.

'Grow in Forest Row' – background note



Grow in Forest Row – A project to grow herbs and vegetables within the heart of the village, with and for all parts of our community

Background

During the lockdown, many people have benefitted from getting outdoors and growing their own vegetables, herbs, and fruit. However, not everyone has access to space, or the time, energy, or physical ability to manage an allotment or larger plot, or the know-how and confidence to get started. People also benefit from having access to fresh vegetables, which some can find expensive to buy in smaller quantities.

Grow in Forest Row wants to offer everyone in our community who would like to learn to grow herbs and vegetables on a small scale the opportunity to do so in the heart of the village. We would do this by creating small raised-beds and growing spaces at appropriate places within Forest Row that will be run by volunteers, with and for the community.

There are a number of similar schemes in towns and villages across the UK, based on an idea called Incredible Edible. It was started in 2008 by two women who organised small veg growing areas within their town, Todmorden in northern England. Volunteers set up and tended the raised beds and small growing spaces right in the heart of the town to grow edible crops. Once the crops were ready to harvest, they put up signs inviting people to try the vegetables. Since then, similar schemes have spread and there are now over 148 communities growing food in their town and village centres across the UK, including in the South East.

The aim of Incredible Edible is to bring communities together to take positive action, improve the local environment as well as providing access to food growing opportunities. We would like to set up a similar project in Forest Row.

Although there are allotments available in Forest Row, many people do not have the time, energy, or physical capacity to take on responsibility for an allotment or garden vegetable patch, yet may still be interested in growing food, for example older people or parents of young children. *Grow in Forest Row* would give them such an opportunity, as well as encouraging otherwise isolated people to meet up with others and while doing something active and enjoyable outdoors. Who do we know in our community who might enjoy spending time outdoors, chatting to others? Perhaps someone who is feeling isolated might relish seeing friendly faces and having something positive to chat about, and at the end of the day have some healthy fresh veg to take home.

Benefits include – getting more people outdoors and active, helping people learn to grow healthy fresh food, reaching out to older people who may be feeling isolated and who may enjoy some gentle gardening, getting children and young families who may not have much time involved in food growing and bringing different parts of our community together.

Our Plan

The plan is for a group of volunteers to set up herb and vegetable growing in raised beds at appropriate locations in the centre of Forest Row. Such spaces may be available just beyond the Parish Council Offices, and in the space within the railings outside the old Co-op store (where they are not already in use).

The volunteers will undertake all work to cultivate the beds, so they are suitable for vegetable growing. *Grow in Forest Row* will provide all the materials, including compost, plants and equipment and will undertake all ongoing maintenance, ensuring the spaces are kept neat, tidy, well-tended, safe, and self-contained.

We will undertake training for anyone interested in learning to grow food in the raised beds, and a pilot on-line introductory course has already been successfully run which was attended by eight local people so far. Once it is permitted to do so, the training will continue in person outdoors.

We would like to liaise with local businesses to get their buy-in and interest in the project and would explain our plans to the businesses close to the raised beds (e.g., those alongside the railings on Hartfield Road) before starting any work.

The raised beds will look attractive and should improve the appearance of parts of the village that are currently not well-used. As people see work being done on the beds, they may want to join in, and it will be a good way of engaging different parts of our community.

We would also like to engage with other community groups within Forest Row, such as those using the Community Centre, the Fridge, the Man Shed and any other organisations who could benefit from having access to growing spaces.

Once the herbs and vegetables are established, there will be small signs indicating which crops are ready to harvest and inviting people to help themselves to a small amount of the crops. This is initially likely to feel unfamiliar to people, and it may take people a while to get used to it, but over time other similar schemes have found that people welcome the opportunity to participate in something the community has produced.

Funding for the project will initially come from payments that have been made to attend the introductory growing courses and from donations. Eventually we would like to apply for grant funding from organisations that fund community, food, and health related projects.

If you have any questions or would like further information, or to discuss *Grow in Forest Row*, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Grow in Forest Row – Ffion Thomas ffionbt@gmail.com

[Further information on similar projects:](#)

[Incredible Edible - Wikipedia](#)

[Incredible Edible – If you eat, you're in](#)

Sara Smart
Community Development Officer
09.04.2021

Proposal to explore the possibility of a community art work composed of waste materials and litter, and involving the youth groups.

- This is an early-stages proposal and many details remain to be worked out
- Sara and Mel at the VENUe support the idea
- The basic premise is that youth groups will collect litter and waste material and turn it into a sculpture or other art form that can be admired by all
- Once the initial batch of material has been collected, the youth groups can decide what kind of structure to create
- The idea for this came from the Eden Project, where there is a tyrannosaurus made from waste electronics
- As time goes on, more material can be collected and added to the sculpture. This will help keep the Foresters Green free of litter and will encourage awareness of littering among young people
- The location of the sculpture has yet to be decided, but it should be near the VENUe so the youth groups feel ownership of it
- Stephan Duve of the Repair Cafe has said he will be willing to weld up the base structure and help with the creative process
- The creation process will need to be supervised by adults with suitable police checks