

# Meadows Community Gardens

## Plan for phased re-opening after lockdown for Covid 19.

**June 1<sup>st</sup> 2020.** This document is subject to change and will be reviewed regularly by staff and trustees as government guidelines and the pandemic situation changes.

There is a full risk assessment which accompanies all of this.

### **Present situation, as of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020:**

The community gardens has been totally closed to the public since Lockdown was announced. Garden staff – Rachael, Sally and Tom have been working on site to keep the gardens and the hens going, their hours have been worked in a different pattern to cover each day and adhere to social distancing. Claire, Ellie, Steve and Katy are working from home. A very small number of trustees have also been going on site occasionally to help with watering, weeding etc, with the site locked at all times and always following all guidelines on social distancing. Some veg and plants have been sold via delivery only.

### **Phased reopening from the start of June 2020:**

All of this is subject to review and change and no dates can be attached as yet.

- **Staff currently working from home returning to work on site** – possibly for some or all of their contracted hours. This will have to be carefully timetabled to avoid there being more than one person at a time in the office. All staff work part-time, so staff and trustees will look at how to best co-ordinate who is in and when.
- **Volunteers to return in a 3 phased way:** small numbers only, working outside only, with a member of gardens staff, with the site still closed to the public. Volunteers grouped into 3 phases: phase one will be those

who can work independently and not classed as vulnerable, phase two will be those who might need a little bit more support and phases 3 will be those needing more support.

- **Produce sales** – with the site still closed to the public; we will sell produce from an area at the gate, with specific times and pre-orders taken by telephone.
- **Kids Club** – is likely to start again when the government gives the go-ahead for outdoor out of school clubs. This will be with very strict safety measures in place, much smaller groups and much less equipment than normal. It's likely this will happen with the gardens closed to the public and no other groups on site at the same time as Kids Club and timetabled to allow for cleaning before and after the sessions.
- **Tandoor / Cob Oven use** – this can only happen when social distancing guidelines have changed as the tandoor shelter area means people have to be working closely together and due to the use of fire.
- **Community plots** – for now we have to avoid tools and equipment being shared and ensure anyone on site strictly adheres to the safety guidelines in place. It's likely the community plots can only reopen when the whole site is opened up again for open access and people will need to bring their own tools.
- **One-off adult group sessions** - could resume for very small groups, working outside only, if everyone could adhere to safety measures.
- **Adults group sessions which happen inside the building, such as Cook and Eat and yoga** – can only resume when government guidelines allow.

- **Opening the whole site back up for any members of the public to come in** – in order to do this safely we would need to be confident that we have enough staff in place to oversee safety, cleaning (especially of the toilet and other areas used when more people are on site) and that we could ensure the safety of vulnerable volunteers and others. Government guidelines on social distancing, use of things like playground equipment, numbers that can meet from different households will need to have changed.
- **Any gatherings of more than 10 people** such as our activities, events and bigger meetings – these are likely to be unable to take place safely for some time. We will have to wait until government guidelines on social distancing and the number of people from different households who can meet in groups has significantly changed.