



## Marlpit Community Garden, Marlpit Lane, Norwich

### Grower's Agreement

#### **Welcome to Marlpit Community Garden.**

The Grow Our Own (GO<sup>2</sup>) initiative of Sustainable Living Initiative aims to promote sustainable living through collective practical action. The success of Marlpit Community Garden depends on the willingness of its members to co-operate in the performance of tasks that benefit all members and the environment. In addition to managing and maintaining your plots, we expect you to give some time to managing and maintaining communal facilities and resources. It is a Planning condition imposed by the Norwich City Council that you do not travel to the Garden by car (disabled users exempted); if we receive complaints from the local people that you are parking in their parking spaces, we will be compelled to remove you from our membership.

#### **As a grower of the Marlpit Community Garden you can expect:**

- A supportive and positive environment that maximises your opportunities to grow fruit, vegetables and herbs of your choice
- To be treated fairly and with respect and courtesy, regardless of gender, age, sexual orientation, religion, ethnic background or disability
- Unrestricted access to your own plot of land, renewable each year on 1<sup>st</sup> October
- A key to the padlock for the gates and the tool shed at the Garden on payment of £15 deposit
- Tools, seeds, seedlings and plants as available
- Reasonable access to manure and other aids to growing, depending on availability
- Help and advice on all matters relevant to growing, cooking and preserving food and managing the environment.

#### **In return we ask that you:**

- Assist with communal tasks – in managing and maintaining communal resources and facilities, such as tool-shed, paths, communal growing areas
- Pay the annual fee for your plot promptly before 1<sup>st</sup> October
- Inform us of any change in your postal and e-mail address immediately
- Maintain your plot reasonably well at all times and make necessary arrangements to look after your plot while you are away on a long holiday
- Let us know if you are unable to look after your plot due to illness or any other reason
- Treat other growers/members/volunteers with respect and courtesy
- Uphold the values of the Sustainable Living Initiative by, for example:
  - Using only organic methods of growing and not using chemicals
  - Making good use of your produce and minimising waste by sharing surplus produce and by composting
  - Parking bikes only in the designated areas
  - Minimising the use of non-biodegradable materials
  - Taking home all non-compostable materials that you bring
- Use shared resources, such as seeds, plants and manure only as much as you need them, and with due regard to the needs of other members
- Take care not to damage or otherwise interfere with the plots of other growers
- Observe all health and safety rules, and act in a way that does not put in jeopardy the safety of yourself or others
- Take personal responsibility for the safety and well-being of children for whom you are a parent, guardian or responsible adult
- Return your key and collect your deposit money within a month if you decide to leave



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### **HEALTH AND SAFETY ADVICE FOR GROWERS, MEMBERS, VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS**

1. Be aware of obstructions and tripping hazards around the site. Long grass can hide wooden boards, wire, netting or stones; there could be broken glass in the soil and in manure and compost heaps. Paths can be slippery when wet.
2. Wear suitable clothing; strong shoes or boots and gardening gloves are strongly recommended. Bring clothes for all weather conditions, drinking water and anti-histamines if you need them.
3. Have a mobile phone with you if possible, particularly if working alone. Work within your capabilities and save enough energy for clearing up.
4. Don't leave tools with edges and prongs exposed, store them safely and keep paths clear.
5. Protect hands with gloves, especially when using manure, and always wash your hands before eating or handling food.
6. There is a First Aid box with plasters and eye-wash in the tool-shed. Find out where it is, what it contains and read the instructions of what to do if someone is injured. Dial 999 if necessary. Dock leaves are good to rub on nettle stings.
7. Children on site are very vulnerable as there are water-butts, sharp tools, manure heaps, soil contaminants and more. Supervision is essential, and please keep little feet from other growers' crops.
8. Be aware that Blackthorn grows in the surrounding hedges and sometimes springs up within the main field. This plant has sharp thorns which can cause infections, so avoid handling it or wear strong gloves.
9. Horses and sheep may at times be grazing on the field. Please respect these animals and be aware that they may be contained within electric fencing (low voltage, but best avoided!).
10. Stay away from bee hives and do not approach when the beekeeper is working with the bees.
11. Anglian Water managed sewage pipes run across the top end (along the path leading to the Central area) of our Garden. Manhole covers are indicated with a wooden "T" sign. If you notice any leakage or smell foul, please contact Anglian Water on 03457145145 and report it to the Project Manager (phone -01603 920570).
12. If you notice any unusual activities on site or have any problem, please report it to the Project Manager (phone -01603 920570).

**Thank you for your cooperation and enjoy gardening!**