

## **Food and Growing Group - Admin meeting April**

### ***Potato Day***

Total income on the day £2531.77. (Incl cafe £321.05 and £134.15 seed swap)  
Add on income from Soirbheas ( £277.80), TTF (£150), Dan Ross (£34), Bob Bull (£16.20)  
Cromarty market £102.95, Culbokie market £20.70, N Kessock £27.92 (incl seed swap)

**Total income : £3161.34**

Potato costs £1688.20. Hall hire £63.

**Total costs: £1751.20**

Summary of feedback from the day on separate sheet.  
Feeling that we over ordered again, Trish McKeggie and Maggie Wormald have been inducted to ordering process and will take it over for next year and are aware of this.

### ***Seed swap group***

Income from seed swap  
GQT. £72  
Potato Day £134.15  
Cromarty market £44.20  
Culbokie market £68.15 + £7  
N Kessock market - share of £27.92. Total £ 325.50 +

One finding so far is that there's been little seed 'swapping', folk mainly just collecting some seed and giving donations. Contact made with Ullapool seed savers and also John Wood at Poolewe where they had a very successful local version of GQT. (We had provided our spare seed as a contribution to their stock)  
To address some of above at fairly recent Seed Swap Group meeting we have decided on initiating concept of seed guardians, group members signed up to gather seed for specific veg. Starting small but other seed guardians welcome.

### ***Grow North***

Quiet start with 3 folk signed up for first workshop but decided to hold the session (new tutor, gave her experience). One extra person turned up on the day and for that alone it was worth running the session (some mental health issues and needing people contact/ practical engagement.)  
Second session oversubscribed (13 attended).  
Third session has 10 (plus a child) signed up thus far. (Max to be 14)

Have applied for a contribution to funding of the programme to two different Co-op charitable funds and been successful with the first application. (The other is Community Directplus)  
See below for more detail.

### ***Other topics related :***

*Composting idea, still being floated - Anne/ Martin can input ?*  
*Anna Scott 'Love Food Hate Waste' project - been in contact and suggested steps forward for her.*  
*Intern and Local Larder update - food group asked to submit amendment suggestions to list of providers*  
*Food assembly to start soon in Inverness, out of Fairways. Dan Ross involved.*

**Grow North success in application to Co-op Local Community Fund  
- second round of funding (April- September 2017)**

Context

CLCF were looking for 3 projects in each of 1500 local communities across the UK. Would choose projects that

- a) benefit the local community centred around Co-op food stores and funeral homes;
- b) have the greatest possible benefit to their community
- c) make max use of funding available

Application made end of January and just heard been successful.

What it means

For the 6 months we're part of the fund Co-op members can choose to give 1% of what they spend on branded products and services to our cause/the other causes chosen. (Difficult to work out which are the other local causes to have been chosen...possibly Black Isle Cares and Highland Group Riding for the Disabled)

Causes will be supported by Co-op food stores and funeral homes.

Funding is received at the end (October ?), and if members don't choose a cause during the 6 months the contribution they've built up will be divided equally between the causes in the community.

There's been a **kickstart** to our funds with a share of carrier bags/ reusable bags sales : **£429**

And press releases will be sent out by Co-op to local newspapers.

Promotion

Co-op colleagues will be in touch in May to let us know how to raise our profile in store.

If you're a co-op member you can keep track of funds being raised for Grow North by signing into your Co-op membership account.

Been provided with a promotional guide - ideas suggested :

Happy to do ....	Would not want to do these....
Can use co-op logo (been provided) when we share news about our involvement	Put up posters in community
Update website	Make leaflets
Mention fund in newsletter	
Use social media to mention cause	
Add a Twibbon (?) to profile picture so folk can see we're part of the fund ??	
Get in local newspaper ? (chatterbox)	

I'm happy for some of the above as outlined, but wouldn't want to over advertise/promote via leaflets and posters because :

- a) Funding wise - In the kick start funding we've almost already reached what I hoped we'd gain from any outside funding. And it sounds like there'll be more on top of that.

Looking at the other causes I feel they would be far more in need of additional funds than us.

- b) Profile wise - What we will gain from this in addition to the money is some raised profile which is good....but don't want it raised too much ! We are a small project and don't have the resources if there was a greatly increased interest/demand currently. Albeit it would benefit/support/encourage any longer term take up/ potential development of the reach and remit of GN (as would the funding of course).

- c) Too much emphasis on the funding takes away from the project itself I think.

Julie