

GUIDE TO GROUP GROWING PLOTS

What is Jealott's Hill Community Landshare CIC?

The Landshare is a 6.5 acre garden and sits on land generously leased by agricultural research company Syngenta (our landlords) and opened in 2012. It consists of an extensive orchard, community growing hub with fruit cages, sensory garden with benches for quiet reflection, lawned areas, an area dedicated to Group Growing Plots and a wildlife pond. On site we also have a large polytunnel, some small greenhouses, a barn for tool storage, a carpentry workshop, a warm kitchen/rest area (and very nice toilets!) Our outdoor seating area under the green canopy provides a welcoming space to take a break from gardening and enjoy the view. Everyone from our local community is encouraged to get involved. We welcome people of all ages and all backgrounds to enjoy our beautiful green space.

What is a Group Growing Plot?

Part of the Landshare is given over to Group Growing Plots. The essence of these plots is sharing. We rent out a series of pieces of land to groups who would like to garden together. The sizes range from raised beds to small plots to extra extra large plots. The idea is that the group share the experience and the horticultural rewards and enjoy the social and therapeutic benefits of cultivating our wonderful Landshare together.

Who can rent a plot?

In order to rent a plot, you need to be a 'group', so why not join together with friends, family or colleagues and come and cultivate together. We recommend a minimum of 3 adults to a plot and from our experience the larger the group the more successful you will be and the more fun you will have!

What can we grow on our plot?

You can grow edibles and/or ornamentals.

Ornamental and fruit trees may be grown but **must** be grown on dwarf rootstock and must be positioned where they will not encroach on the pathways around each plot once full sized. Please confirm positioning with the Landshare Manager before planting. Permanent hedging is not permitted.

Watering and weedkilling

Each plot has access to a tap so you can water with a watering can or hose (in a responsible manner).

As far as possible we encourage you to garden according to organic principles and discourage you from using weedkillers where possible. We aim to get regular deliveries of horse manure and wood chippings which you are welcome to use for soil improvement and mulching.

How big is a plot and how much does it cost?

We have plots of all sizes, so it depends on your plans and how much time you can commit to it. Each plot on the site is hired individually but you may hire more than one! Sizing and costs for 2025 are as follows.

Group Growing Plot Fees 2025-26		
Raised bed		£ 15.00
Small plot	0 - 35m ²	£ 45.00
Medium plot	36 - 85m ²	£ 90.00
Large plot	86 - 150m ²	£ 120.00
Extra large plot	151 - 275m ²	£ 150.00
XX large plot	275m ² +	£ 240.00
Polytunnel Table Fees 2025-26		
Whole table		£ 25.00
Half table		£ 12.50

Is there indoor growing space?

Subject to availability (and for a small annual fee, see chart above) we may be able to offer you growing space on a table in our large polytunnel. This sheltered space is perfect for growing seeds, protecting crops, overwintering tender plants etc.

When is the Landshare open?

Our normal opening times are Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am – 2.00pm. By arrangement, Group Growing Plot holders may have their own key to the gate and are then permitted on site on other days of the week including weekends, and in the evenings when it is still light. (NB no overnight stays or access to site in the dark)

Do we have to bring our own tools?

We have a small tool shed which contains a selection of tools which are accessible to GGP holders who come after hours. Alternatively, you can bring your own tools and/or install a lockable weatherproof box on the plot and leave tools there.

Is there any storage space?

We may be able offer some storage space in one of the big barns that belong to Syngenta (our landlord) – this means that it is only accessible when the Landshare as a whole is open.

Can we put up a shed or a greenhouse?

Subject to agreement with the Landshare Manager, you may be permitted to instal a small (non-glass) greenhouse or polytunnel in the designated area near our ‘bee banks’. We regret that installation of sheds is not permitted, but you may leave a low lockable weatherproof box on your plot.

What other structures can we erect?

You may install cabbage cages, small cloches, fruit cages and compost bins. The site can be quite windy so all structures must be robust and securely tethered! Please note that for safety reasons no glass structures are allowed on site. To discourage vermin compost bins must be emptied during the month of February.

Can we have a wildlife pond on our plot?

Please speak to the Landshare Manager about wildlife ponds as the location, size and depth must be agreed before one is dug and there are health and safety issues to take into consideration.

What facilities are there on site?

During Landshare opening times plot holders have access to:

- The Cabin (warm and dry with seating and a kitchen area to make hot drinks etc)
- Toilet facilities
- The Tool Barn – with garden tools to borrow
- Green Shelter – perfect for catching up with our volunteers at break and lunch times
- The Polytunnel

If you wish to use the Landshare when the site is closed, you can apply for a key card to get through the gate. During these times access to our amenities is more limited but you can still use:

- Toilet facilities
- Small kitchen area with fresh drinking water
- GGP Tool Shed
- Green Shelter
- The Polytunnel

Can we explore the rest of the Landshare while we are there?

With pleasure. Come and enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings that the Landshare offers – from our extensive orchard, our vineyard and our sensory garden to the communal hub, pond and forest school area. You are also welcome to purchase plants, bulbs, crafts, produce etc – all sold to support the running of the Landshare,

Involvement with the wider Landshare

We welcome you to get involved with the Landshare as a whole. We arrange occasional ‘pop-up’ volunteering opportunities on Saturdays and fundraising events like the annual Wassail, a summer fair and workshops like wreath making and bulb planting which you are encouraged to support.

Do I need my own insurance?

Jealott's Hill Community Landshare CIC has its own Public Liability Insurance, but as a Group Growing Plot holder we ask that each member of a plot also has public liability insurance.

Some of our plot holders use South West Counties Allotment Association PLI:

www.swcaa.co.uk

How to apply for a plot

To apply for a plot, please arrange a visit to look at the plots available and familiarise yourself with the Landshare and all it has to offer.

Pick a plot 😊

Decide if you'd like the use of a growing table in the Polytunnel (half or full table depending on availability)

Read, complete and sign the **Group Permission to Cultivate** form

Read, complete and sign the **Code of Practice**

Read, complete and sign the **Photography and filming consent** form

Apply for your own Public Liability Insurance (you may have this already) and provide a copy to the Landshare Manager.

If you have any questions which are not answered here, please contact the Landshare Manager:

Email: admin@jealottshilllandshare.org.uk

Telephone: 07958 053862

Address: Jealott's Hill Community Landshare, Wellers Lane, Warfield, Bracknell, RG42 6BQ