

## **FOOD FUTURES: DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY AND CULTURE IN SHEFFIELD. 2 / 3 / 99.**

***Pass round attendance list. Hand out Conference summary and attendance. Set regular meeting times. Suggest first Tuesday of month at O.T.H. Brief round: Who we are and what we want from the process.***

**SOIL ASSOCIATION.** Presentation to conference weak / unconvincing. Sense that we could do as well or better on our own. Core group's position that we can negotiate with S.A. from a position of strength. S.A. backing / endorsement / credibility / profile / trust could be invaluable in the long run. Continue to try to identify source of funding for S.A. Any suggestions for what sources would be appropriate / suitable and help securing them? ( Current possibilities T.E.C. / S.R.B. )

Part of the work of Food Futures will be speculative based on current trends. This will be valuable preparation if and when statutory support or commercial funding become more available.

### **STRATEGY**

- 1. We will need to formally constitute the STRUCTURE of the partnership process.**
- 2. For each element or strand of Food Futures we need to answer the following questions:**
  - What already exists?**
  - Who is (or should be) responsible?**
  - Who are the beneficiaries / stakeholders?**
  - What are the targets / aims / objectives for each strand? How to achieve them?**

*Offer to compile a SCOPING DOCUMENT, including each participant's contribution and commitment, representing the full agenda as a spray diagram and proposing a process of development as a flow diagram. MEETING TO DISCUSS AND APPROVE STRATEGY*

- 3. Meeting to consider funding profile for the process.**

**Current commitment to process: SOFI one day per week / Rachel Wileman one day per week.**

**Potential support: Heeley City Farm Local Food Links worker / Healthy Gardening Group Community Gardening network of support workers.**

**SOFI can contribute consultation and practical advice for organic growing / market gardening.**

**Site assessment and mapping / recommendations / project design.**

**Demonstrations / workshops / displays / articles / networking / lobbying**

**Subjects:** Health and Safety / Precautions / Dangers / First-Aid / Risk Assessment / Diet / Nutrition / Genetics / Preventative Health / Occupational Therapy / Rehabilitation / Herbs and Medicinal Herbalism / Psychoactive Plants

Allotments: Starting / Cultivation Sequence / Tenancy Agreement / Urban Context / Land / Vandalism

Site Assessments and Consultations / Mapping / Planning / Recording

Soil-Health-Care / Soil-Care And Reclamation / Soil Abuse / Soil Sculpture / Soil Fertility: Organic Fertilisers (Seaweed / Calcified Seaweed / Volcanic Rock Dust / Organic Blood, Fish and Bonemeal / Hoof and Horn / Nettle and Comfrey Liquid Feeds) / Raised Beds / Companion Planting / Rotations / Green Manures / Mulching  
Recycling for Organic Food-Growing / Recyclodynamic Gardening / Horticultural Recycling / Resource Cycles / Guerilla Gardening

Compost / Composting/Organic Matter / Leafmould / Composting of Leaves / Loam / Vermiculture / Vermicomposting / Composting by Worms / Potting Composts / Propagation / Cuttings / Seed Sowing

Fruit and Nuts / Orchard Maintenance / Planting Fruiting Perennials / Pruning

Weather / The Year / Season / Timing / Planting Calendar / Cycles and Synchronicity / Observations / Season Extension / Succession / Continuity / Greenhouses & Polytunnels / Construction and Maintenance

Cropping / Harvesting / Produce / Processing / Marketing

Seed Collection and Selection / Heritage Seedbank / Local Biodiversity: An Organic Perspective

Permaculture / Agroforestry / Biodynamics / Veganics / Self-Sufficiency / Subsistence / Grow Your Own / Sustainable, Ethical and Ecological Agriculture / Appropriate Technology

Market Gardening / Smallholding / Unstone Grange

Organic Food / Organic Food Initiative / Locally-Grown Organic Food / Community Gardens & Orchards / Community

Composting / City Farms / L.E.T.S. / Credit Unions / Food Co-ops / Community-Supported Agriculture /

Subscription Farming / Farmers' Markets / W.I. Markets / Local Food Directories / Local Organic Certification and Conversion / Buy Local! / Ethical & Fair Trade



# FOOD FUTURES:

## DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FOOD ECONOMY AND CULTURE IN SHEFFIELD.

21st February 1999

Dear Colleague,

We are writing to confirm the time, date and venue of the next Food Futures meeting:

**3 p.m. on Tuesday March the 2nd at the Old Town Hall.**

Please confirm whether you can attend by phoning Richard Clare (2686727) or Rachel Wileman (2734645).

### AGENDA

1. Mapping existing contacts.
2. Report on links made so far.
3. Formation of Core Group. Timetable future meetings.
4. Structure, aims and objectives.

The purpose of this meeting will be to agree a working model for the process, based on the existing and imminent activities identified so far. Please could you consider your own interests, activities, expectations and how to achieve them so that we can take them into account. It would be very helpful if you could summarise your views in writing for consideration and circulation at this meeting. What do you think should be the functions of Food Futures?

To help bring everyone up to date with the progress we have made so far, we can make copies of relevant information available at the meeting:--

1. Soil Association's Food Futures Programme: project outline / partnerships / budgets.
2. Minutes of previous meetings ( 17/12/98 & 14/1/99).
3. Correspondence with the Soil Association (6/11/98, 11/1/99 & 2/2/99).
4. Texts of conference presentations (8/2/99).
5. John LeCorney's draft discussion document, "Developing the Sheffield Sustainable Food Economy".
6. Sheffield Organic Food Initiative: "Recommendations for the Development of Locally-grown Organic Food Capacity".

If you require copies of any of the above, please inform us before the meeting.

Please note that the project is not dependant on the involvement of the Soil Association. Several partners have expressed doubts about whether it is worth giving them £10,000 in return for the workshops, expertise and strategy and whether this represents value for money for Sheffield. We believe that the gain in credibility available if the project is endorsed by the Soil Association would be invaluable and that this sum could be relatively small in proportion to the fund-raising potential of the project in the long run. We have made an approach to the Training and Enterprise Council with a view to obtaining these funds and may alternatively be able to source this sum from S.R.B.

We have applied to Sheffield Health / Sheffield Council Joint Finance for funds to cover the costs of workshops. In the event of Sheffield Food Futures progressing without the Soil Association, this funding for workshops would be used to organise further conferences, covering areas of interest, such as producers, retailers, consumers, education and training, health and food poverty, community growing, statutory provision etc.

Many thanks, Richard, Rachel, Rose and Darrell ( the Food Futures team)