

Interested in joining us?

Members pay an annual fee, and also contribute small sums to a pool from time to time to pay for consumables like seeds, manure, etc.

Annual membership costs £22.50 for an individual, or £35 for a family. There are concessions for those on means-tested benefits.

For more information or to become a member, contact us on our main email:

commoncausecoop@gmail.com

or

Ring or email Lesley Healey, an allotment member and one of the Directors of Common Cause:
lesleyhealey267@gmail.com / 07765 077590

If you can't come and work on the allotment but want to support the project, you can join as a Friend of LCA for £5 per year, and get emailed updates and invitations to events, like our open days.



Lewes Community Allotment was started in 1988 by a group of local people, with the support of Lewes Town and District Councils. It is a large plot on Highdown Allotments, run by Lewes Town Council. The allotment is on a south/south west facing, chalk slope, so the soil is alkaline and free draining.

It is a membership allotment – a cooperative - that is managed organically to grow and share fruit, vegetables, herbs and edible flowers. The core membership manages the allotment as a whole. We also encourage other groups to use the site as an outdoor therapeutic and/or learning space, working around the allotment group.

Members share the planning and tasks. We benefit from teamwork and joint decision making. We work together and pool knowledge to produce healthy, organic produce in a wildlife- and soil-friendly way.

We coordinate weekly by group email; agreeing what needs to be done and what can be harvested, and updating each other on what we've done.

Members work on the allotment on Wednesday afternoons or in smaller groups across the week, to fit in with individuals' availability.

An important part of our sessions is to harvest whatever is ready and share the produce!

Each month, usually a Saturday, we have a lunchtime 'bring your own' picnic; giving us an opportunity to meet up in a bigger group, catch-up with each other and talk about the allotment.

Each year, we meet up to plan what we'll sow and plant in the next season.

Being a member means:

- Working together as a team
- Doing two or more hours work on the allotment most weeks throughout the year
- Starting off seeds at home, if you have room
- Helping out with all tasks, even the grotty ones!
- Bringing and sharing your own knowledge and skills
- Working at a level of independence that suits you, but also working with and helping others

The project is supported by Common Cause Co-operative Limited. They hold the agreement with Lewes Town Council for use of the allotment and provide insurance cover and administrative support for the project.