



## Esk Valley Camphill Community

Stormy Hall, Danby Head,  
Danby, Whitby, YO21 2NN

+44 (0)1287 213 054  
[eskvalleycamphill.org](http://eskvalleycamphill.org)

### ESK VALLEY CAMPHILL COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

A Camphill Shared Lives Communities Ltd project lead by the Land Group of the Esk Valley Camphill Community.

#### Background

The EVCC is a newly-founded Camphill community in the heart of the North Yorkshire Moors. We are 80 people, of all ages and abilities, who have chosen to live and work together in this way.

We share our homes and our lives. The elderly person, the busy working adult and the small child each has their own place within the community, and we are all enriched by our daily interactions.

There are typically around six to ten people living in each household. The household is comprised of two to three people who have a learning disability, one or two Co-workers (with their family or children) and a Volunteer Carer.

The majority of Co-workers in the community are registered Shared Lives carers, responsible for providing support services commissioned by the local authority. Volunteer Carers typically spend six months to a year in the community. Everyone is a part of and makes a contribution to the running of the house community and to making it a happy home, and a therapeutic and healing space.

In this picture the community garden would offer a variety of different jobs in connection with nature and food production. The actual and physical work in the garden will be complemented by homemaking and other indoor jobs such as sorting and packing seeds and herbs.

#### Vision

The vision is to create a model close to that of Community Supported Agriculture which consists of a partnership between growers and consumers where the risks and awareness are equally shared. People from the locality will be invited join it as well as those who live further afield and who all believe in the idea behind it.

We see tremendous value in having an open space for Camphill Co-workers, learning disabled adults, volunteers from the locality as well as from further away and abroad.



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We strongly believe in Biodynamics as a way to live with the Land. We are looking to develop associative partnerships with the Seed Cooperative, (a new independent BD project), and the Health Shop in Danby.

### Aims

- to create awareness about the connections between humans and food and the way in which we can grow healthy crops
- to produce food biodynamically
- to provide the EVCC houses with our produce
- to supply the Danby Health shop with vegetables and eggs
- to offer meaningful work for volunteers and the learning disabled
- to offer a variety of different jobs in order to meet the complex needs of some of our residents
- to create a community hub where people work together guided also by passions for food, plants, animals
- to create an educational hub through the work of the land and a closer connection with nature
- to provide biodynamic training

### Market Garden and Seeds

We aim to grow into a space of about 3 acres including the orchard plots and also the soft fruit bushes.

Alongside and combined with the vegetable production we plan to collaborate with the Seed-Coop, the UK community-owned seed company committed to breeding open pollinated seeds, growing some of the crops also for seeds.

This kind of production would also give some indoor work with packaging and sorting seeds for the winter time and when the weather doesn't allow outdoor work. This is of particular importance in a Community in which people with complex needs are involved.

We shall grow about 30 different kinds of crops plus fruits such pears, apples, plums, currants, berries, nuts.

### Chicken



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In order to provide a more complete variety of food to the community we plan to work with about 80 laying hens.

This is a number worked out in order to supply the whole community and the Danby Health Shop. At the moment the demand from Community and the shop's customers is of about 45 eggs per day.

Introducing animals in the farm organism is also another way to vary the jobs for different groups of people on top of providing fertility through their manure. The hens will also constitute a valuable management tool for the soil, working with rotations and moving them around the land according to the needs of the ground.

The combination of plants and animals will already start to give a sense of a more self-sustainable farm organism.

### Marketing plan

The basic idea is to ask the households within the community to pay in advance a subscription payment to the Garden enterprise in order to have available vegetables and eggs throughout the year.

In this case we would have already an initial investment from the members of the Community who would take the risk of this community enterprise.

### The team

The team of the land workers will be formed by some of the Esk Valley Camphill community coworkers, some of the learning disabled residents, some of the young volunteers and potentially a biodynamic apprentice.

Nobody in the team will be employed by the Community Company.



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## Capital Investment

### Garden

Tractor	£ 8000
Implements	£ 3000
Polytunnel	£ 3000
Spanish tunnel	£ 1000
Irrigation	£ 1000
Seed trays	£ 250
Boxes	£ 250
Fences	£ 500
Fleeces and mesh	£ 250
Hoops	£ 250
Silage tarp	£ 200
Hand tools	£ 300
total	18,000

### Chicken

Chicken house	£ 1000
Solar battery	£ 200
Electric fences	£ 200
Feeders	£ 100
Watering devices	£ 100
Hens	£ 400
tot	£ 2,000

Overall amount £ 20,000



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Community Garden	<b>Profit and loss account</b>				
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Year 5</b>	
<b>INCOME</b>					
Chickens	8,200	8,200	8,200	8,200	8,200
Subscription/ Donation	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
MARKET GARDEN	20,000	25,000	25,000	26,000	26,000
<b>Total income</b>	<b>38,199</b>	<b>43,199</b>	<b>43,199</b>	<b>44,199</b>	<b>44,199</b>
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b>					
Chickens	2,778	2,778	2,778	2,778	2,778
Subscription/ Donation	0	0	0	0	0
MARKET GARDEN	2,850	2,850	2,850	2,964	2,850
0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total direct costs</b>	<b>5,628</b>	<b>5,628</b>	<b>5,628</b>	<b>5,742</b>	<b>5,628</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>					
Chickens	5,422	5,422	5,422	5,422	5,422
Subscription/ Donation	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
MARKET GARDEN	17,150	22,150	22,150	23,036	23,150
0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Gross profit</b>	<b>32,571</b>	<b>37,571</b>	<b>37,571</b>	<b>38,457</b>	<b>38,571</b>
<b>OVERHEADS</b>					
Co-worker cost	31,924	34,935	35,008	35,637	35,993
Consultancy	200	205	210	215	221
Staff training	200	200	205	210	215
<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>32,324</b>	<b>35,340</b>	<b>35,424</b>	<b>36,062</b>	<b>36,429</b>
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>2,231</b>	<b>2,147</b>	<b>2,395</b>	<b>2,142</b>