

Cross Green Community Gardening Group – Allotment space

Cross Green, Leeds

Keepmoat

BIG Challenge 2015 submission category: Community engagement

Project overview

Urban In association with Cross Green Community Gardening Group (CGCGG) and Hyde Park Source and Leeds City Council (LCC), who donated the area of land.

Keepmoat are carrying out exterior work to both private and LCC homes on the Cross Green estate.

Thursday 02 April 2015

Ground clearance,

Thursday 11 June Work to

date, project update: who was present – Maria Errington (RLO), Mick Lomas (Project Manager), Jackie Gittins (Team Co-ordinator), Apprentices and trainees, Jean Copley and Mary Brennan of Cross Green Community Gardening Group
PURPOSE OF EVENT To provide growing space for vegetables.

The vegetables are used by CGCGG for the Wednesday lunch club which provides meals for those less fortunate in the local area.

What were the biodiversity conditions on site, prior to the enhancement?



Photo: Allotment site prior to project

The ground had been left for many years and had become a dumping ground for all sorts of rubbish. The council agreed to donate the land to the community group as long as they cleared it.

Were there any specific conditions that led to you carrying out this work?

No.

What were the biodiversity measures taken?

Maria worked closely with the Cross Green Community Gardening Group and agreed to help support this local scheme. Apprentices and staff soon started on site, helping clear the overgrown land of trees and larger bushes.

Keepmoat donated 150 hours of labour, a mini digger with driver, 20 tonnes of soil, along with shovels and wheel barrows needed to help create the new allotments. Group plc: Cross Green Community Gardening Group with key members, Mary Brennan, Jean Copley.

Once the land was cleared the poly-tunnel was erected, to enable gardeners to work under cover and protect young plant from the elements.

Raised beds are now being introduced as the design and layout for the rest of the land is being agreed.

How would you best describe the project?

An enhancement.

What was your personal motivation for carrying out the enhancement?

To assist the local community in a worthwhile cause. I used to live in this area when I was a child and have seen the area decline over the years.

Now that group repairs are happening people are starting to take more pride in the local area.

Mary Brennan and Jean Copley have been the lynch pins of the community group and without them involving all they can I don't think they would have got this far.



Photo: Polytunnel



Photo: Group shot