

Who we are

Five Acre Community Farm is a CSA (Community Support Agriculture) veg farm. The idea behind this is the farmer and the customers share the risk and reward. In practice this means our staff get a wage rather than having to wait to see if they can sell the produce and our members pay a monthly amount for which they share the harvest each week getting more in good times and less when things don't do so well. This also means the community is important to us, this includes those involved as members and volunteers and the wider community who we encourage to visit to learn how food is grown or attend social events. We also actively look to make links with other related projects in the area to support each other.

We have been going since 2012 and are very fortunate to have inherited an established growing environment and were lent a range of equipment including a tractor which we have since bought. We are well resourced with not only the machinery but also use of a heated greenhouse and at least 5 polytunnels of varying sizes which allows us to get a head start in the spring and even grow through the winter. The main field is slightly over 5 acres some of which has polytunnels on it. The greenhouse and two of the polytunnels are in an adjacent area. We also have an orchard area which we have been renovating.

Our membership is currently close to 90 families getting veg each week and has been as high as 100. Many of our members collect veg from the farm each week, while others have formed collection groups who stake turns getting the veg and we also have a drop off option in Rugby. We are between Coventry and Rugby and have members in both places and well as surrounding villages.

Our staff team are supported by a team of volunteers some of who turn up every week, others come more occasionally for specific jobs and events. We also have a volunteer steering group who work with the directors and staff to make any policy decisions. We believe firmly in team work and that we all have valuable skills and views so whoever is appointed to this post will be expected to work as an equal member of the team and can expect a whole range of people to support them in doing this.

Our current landlord is Coventry University and their Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience is based on the same site and we have a close working relationship with them often helping with research. Garden Organic is also still based on site.

So you are not confused our official company name is South Warwickshire Local Food CIC but we trade as Five Acre Community Farm.