



# SHROPSHIRE GOOD FOOD PARTNERSHIP

**Press Release; September 22, 2022**

THE SHROPSHIRE 'RIGHT TO GROW MOVEMENT'

Shropshire communities face a perfect storm of escalating prices for food and energy, just as the evidence for the climate crisis is unfolding before our eyes. A new motion has been proposed to Shropshire Council by Councillor Rosemary Dartnall asking for small plots of public land to be made available for community food growing.

The Shropshire Good Food Partnership is set up to support initiatives across the county to access the skills and resources local groups need to get started and sustain community growing activities. 'The 'Right to Grow' on small lots will help communities in these difficult times and this excellent initiative will get more fresh food to more Shropshire people. We hope Shropshire Council will accept this motion.

Councillor Rosemary Dartnall said, 'this proposal, if agreed, will help Shropshire neighbourhoods become more sustainable and increase resilience by making it easier for community groups to grow more food for local people on underused, or unused, public land, on plots as small as 4 - 5 m<sup>2</sup>. There are several examples of groups that have set a precedent for community growing, such as the Street Allotment Project in Shrewsbury, Incredible Edible groups in Ludlow and Wem and Bridgnorth Community Garden Project. Community growing projects offer not only nourishment, but common purpose, improved mental and physical health, reduced loneliness and isolation and more connected and supportive communities can be achieved. This comes with economic benefits far beyond helping out with shopping bills. This is linked to a national initiative on the Right to Grow with a proposed Community Food and Land Bill at Westminster'.

**“Creating a local food system which is good for people,  
place and planet.”**