



SHROPSHIRE GOOD FOOD PARTNERSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

CREATING A LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM WHICH IS GOOD
FOR PEOPLE, PLACE AND PLANET.



Member of the Sustainable Food Places Network since 2022

A FIRST YEAR IN REVIEW

The Partnership has fledged during a period of great change in the food system: Supply chain disruptions due to Covid, Brexit and the invasion of Ukraine. We are living through economic and fuel crises, the very real impacts of climate change, and more.

These multiple and overlapping issues have underscored more than ever the importance of a joined-up approach to food system transition. We need a more sustainable and resilient path.

Our 60 partnership members include producers, food and drink businesses, councils, academic and faith institutions, charitable organisations, as well as dozens of individuals who have committed to more sustainable practices in order to build a more resilient food system for Shropshire.

As a CIC, the SGFP has put in place the governance, structure and systems that mean the organisation can act as a vehicle for local action, that is dynamic and responsive to members and engage strategically in an effective and efficient way.

This report presents some of the key milestones and successes from this year, and looks ahead to the future with our Partnership members.

Nov '21:
Registered as a CIC &
launched the Good
Food Charter

Nov '21 - Mar '22:
Supported action in
the Local Food
Economy

April '22:
Recognised as a
'Sustainable Food
Place'

May '22:
Awarded Funding
for a Coordinator
from SFP

June '22:
Awarded a Grant
from the Coop
Foundation

Sept '22:
Awarded REDI Grant
from SFP

Oct '22:
'Right to Grow'
Motion approved by
Shropshire Council

Oct '22:
60+ Members
working in
partnership for a
more sustainable &
resilient food System

AIMS

Above all, the Partnership has sought to bring people together across the food system to see how through collaboration and coordination we can do more. Over the last year, we have woven a network across the county of all those already taking action in their own way, in their own patch - joining the dots and identifying how we can support each other. Part of the SGFP's role has been accessing resources and offering support to existing projects in order to bring new ideas and initiatives to fruition.

Launching a Good Food Movement has been the overarching aim. The Good Food Charter has been the starting point; focused on empowering people around food choices, from growing to eating. We have been at events and have Working Groups which provide different ways for people to get involved depending on their interest.

SUCCESSSES

In the last year the SGFP has established a presence through a growing number of members, who are positioned to engage strategically in the county and we provide a central hub for coordinated action.

We have been recognised as a 'Sustainable Food Place', which places us as part of a nationwide movement, and have secured coordination resources through national and local council support.

Through a large pot of grant funding from the CO-OP Foundation's Carbon Innovation Fund, the SGFP has launched the 'Regenerative Food and Farming' project. As a rural county we want to be looking at how we can promote agro-ecological approaches that make business sense for farmers, taking a system-level approach. SGFP will be supporting learning, innovation and research with producers as well as building the demand for 'good' food and effectively linking the local supply and demand.



"Regenerative Food, Farming and Land-use systems"

Engagement Strategy

02 Engage at a strategic level with the council

- Build the case for a County-wide food strategy
- Work with departments whose mandate touches on food and support building links for a joined-up approach to food
- Develop a strategy in consultation with council and citizen stakeholders
- Develop a county Food Policy Council

04 Support good works and best practice

- Secure funding to support a variety of local initiatives in our different focus areas, from practical action to participatory research, right across the County
- Amplify actions & outputs for existing projects

01 Build The Good Food Movement

- TOP OBJECTIVE OF THE SGFP
- Work across all 6 working groups to highlight areas of practical action to create a healthy, sustainable, fair and ecological food system
- Empower active citizen engagement

03 Create a vibrant network

- Increase membership and widen stakeholder engagement and active participation
- Facilitate shared learning between members
- Inform and inspire, within and beyond the partnership

05 Fundamental systems change

- Create opportunities for people to engage in collaborative action for meaningful change in partnership across the county and beyond.

BEING A PARTNERSHIP

Our strength is in the network of organisations and individuals that form the Shropshire Good Food Partnership. We represent an alliance driving food system change across multiple facets of the food system in the county. Each type of member has a role to play in driving the Good Food Movement and in widening engagement for a sustainable food system transition.



LOOKING AHEAD

We are developing an engagement strategy that will help us build the Good Food Movement, having clear pathways for people to get involved. Our Working Groups will be driving action around our six specific focus areas.

We are working to enable collaborative responses to rising food poverty, that is supportive of existing partner organisations and connects up the right and capacity to grow and eat.

We will continue to secure funding to support good practice across the county in all our different focus areas.

Work will continue with Local Councils on strategic plans that will be based on the business case for a food systems approach.



Building the Good Food Movement

GOAL:
To have an active and effective good food movement for Shropshire

SGFP as the Umbrella

SGFP links a network of stakeholders, and offers a "collective voice" through partnership members, from the grassroots to the council & MPs



Steering Group

Food system experts and activists bring their knowledge and networks in support of SGFP Objectives



Working Groups

Through our 6 working groups we interface with specialist organisations on the front lines of change & community support. These alliances are where impactful partnership takes place



Partnership Members

These businesses and organisations are building links in their communities, identifying and responding to local problems and sharing the stories from the grassroots



Farmers and Food Producers

An essential role in food system change, knowledge sharing of best practices in farming

Individuals and Communities

These people want to be a part of something bigger, and realise that small actions build up to make great change.



Local Council

Parish, Town and County councils working together can enable food system change



WITH THANKS

The directors of the SGFP would like to thank:

Shropshire Council

Shrewsbury Food Hub for support in our incubation phase

Members of Steering Group who have given time monthly to join discussions and provide direction

Volunteers and keen grassroots champions who have shared our vision and represented the Partnership at events across the county

CHANGE IN ACTION

Over the last year, the SGFP has had the privilege of getting involved with and supporting some outstanding local food and farming initiatives.



Oswestry 5 Mile Food

A pilot project bringing together producers, community food projects, gleaning and food rescue groups for a hyper localised supply chain.



Treflach Farm

We worked with Treflach Farm to develop and grow their on-site farmer's market.



Digital Marketing for Farmers

Support to Marches Grow Local, Local to Ludlow and Market Drayton traders to explore use of digital tools to expand access to markets with activities from marketing training to online shop development



The Street Allotment Project

SAP works across Shrewsbury with several urban ag sites. SGFP has enabled SAP to get a cargo bike to move tools and produce across the city and to advertise their work.



Shropshire Love Nature Festival

An annual festival with events across the county. SGFP has supported through consultation work and network building.



Nancy Lowe - The Natural Gardener

Our Nature Connection working group has facilitated funding for Nancy to have a mobile education unit, allowing her to travel to events and showcase the potential of home growing.



Bronygarth Orchard Garden

The SGFP has worked with Bronygarth to develop a wellbeing program, and to build up a network of local producers to take part in on-site events focused on food and wellbeing.



Dorrington Community Garden

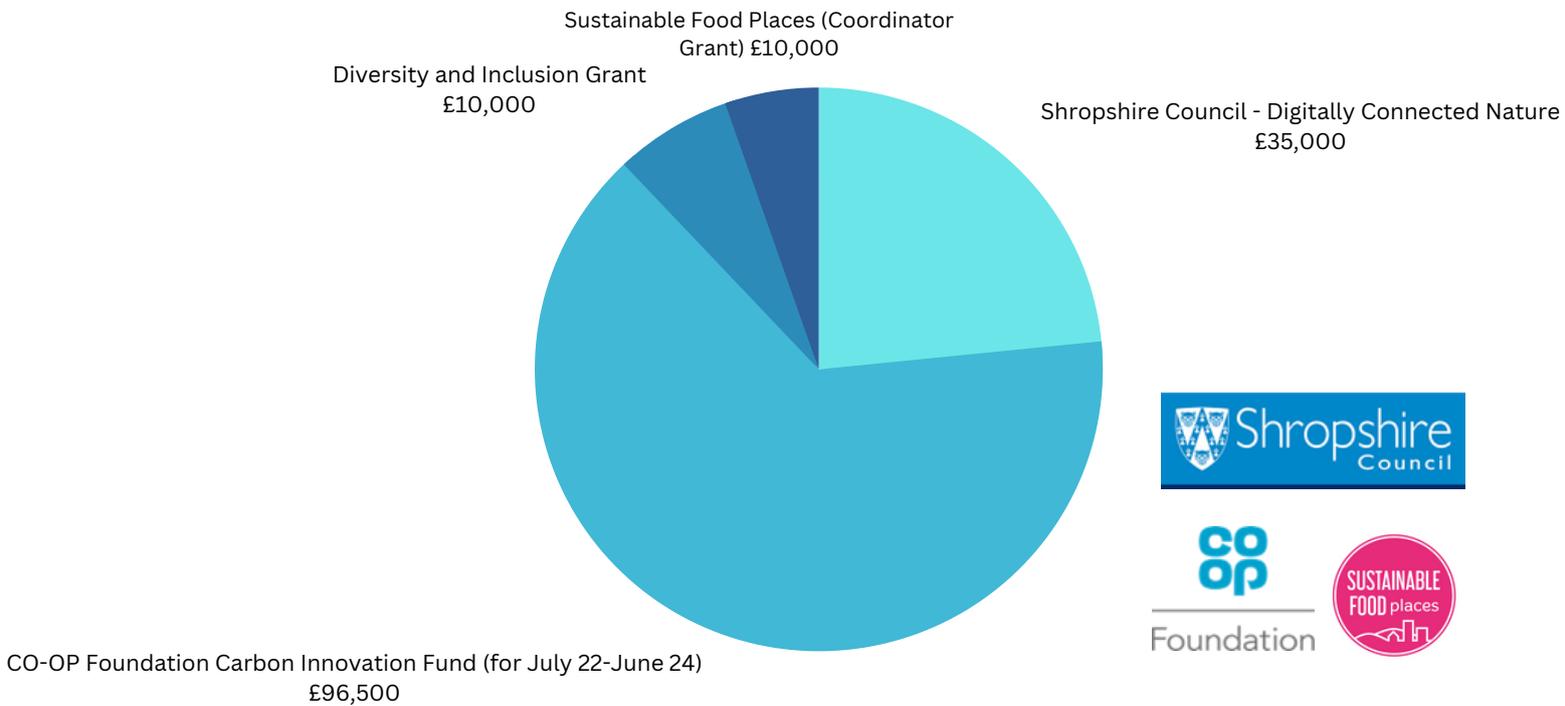
One of three projects supported through our Nature Connection working group. The SGFP has provided funding for a shelter at the garden site for training and outreach sessions.



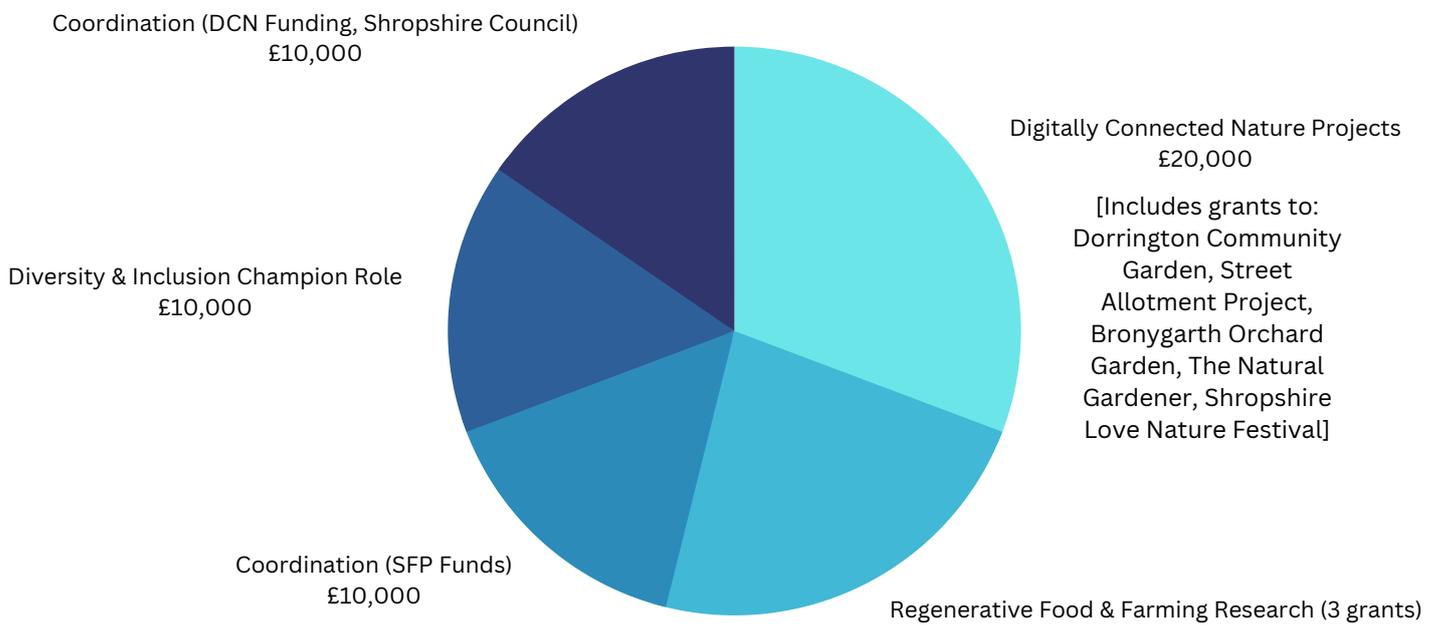
OVERVIEW OF FINANCES

During our incubation phase (up to March 22) we received funds from Shropshire Council to carry out Scoping and resources to support our Building the Local Food Economy project. This enabled us to provide grants, facilitate learning between partners and explore opportunities for local producers in public procurement and regional supermarkets.

Incoming Grants



Distribution across Projects



Note: A full financial report will be available at the end of our financial reporting period in April 2023. This is illustrative of the current position.