

22 October 2022

Special / Annual General Meeting

Proposed changes to guiding principles of Stroud Community Agriculture Ltd

Rationale

When the SCA was originally founded its operation was based on a number of very sound principles. These have guided the development of the farm ever since. They are also a good summary for Members, new Members and potential funders to gain a quick summary of what the SCA is about. In the intervening twenty years new information, especially with regard to global warming and the need to rejuvenate the soil have emerged. As a consequence, the Core Group are proposing to update the principles. (The original principles are included on the following page in italics.)

We would welcome your feedback on the revised principles. This can either be emailed to a.j.biscoe@gmail.com or communicated at the S/AGM.

The guiding principles of Stroud Community Agriculture from 22 October 2022 are proposed as:

1. To farm in a way that respects the soil and climate.
2. To develop a sense of community around the production of our food.
3. To ensure our farmers have a decent livelihood and can afford to live in Stroud District.
4. To continue to pioneer a new economic model based on mutual benefit and shared risk.
5. To offer opportunities for learning, therapy and re-connecting with the life of the earth.
6. To practice organic and biodynamic agriculture.
7. To be inclusive in welcoming members from any background or situation, also those with low or no income.
8. To encourage members, in co-operation with the farmers, to use the farm for their individual and social activities and celebrations.
9. To be transparent in all our affairs. To make decisions on the basis of consensus wherever possible. To strive towards social justice.
10. To network with others to promote community supported agriculture to other communities and farms and share our learning (both economic and farming).
11. To work co-operatively with other enterprises that share our principles.

ORIGINAL PRINCIPLE OBJECTS:

1. *To support organic and biodynamic agriculture.*
2. *To pioneer a new economic model based on mutual benefit and shared risk and ensure that the farmers have a decent livelihood.*
3. *To be fully inclusive.*
4. *To encourage practical involvement on all levels.*
5. *To be transparent in all our affairs, make decisions on the basis of consensus wherever possible and strive towards social justice.*
6. *To offer opportunities for learning, therapy and re-connecting with the life of the earth.*
7. *To network with others, promote CSA to other communities and farms and share our learning (both economic and farming).*
8. *To encourage CSA members, in co-operation with the farmers, to use the farm for their individual and social activities and celebrations.*
9. *To develop a sense of community around the farm.*
10. *To work co-operatively with other enterprises that share our principles.*