

Kindling's Theory of Change

Our Approach

The guiding principles that define the way we work:

Our Shared Vision

Our vision is of a food system in which:

- We value food, the land and the people who produce it. Sustainable food is seen as a right and not a privilege, and there is food equality throughout the food system.
- There is both increased supply of and demand for local sustainable food. Food is produced in a way that works with ecosystems and protects the soil and biodiversity.
- There is a proliferation of small scale production and trading systems, that are people not market-led. Science and technology are utilised for good not just profit. A food system in which food sovereignty is achieved.

And a wider society in which:

- Everyone feels included and valued. Communities and activists feel empowered to challenge the root causes of problems and create their own solutions.
- Communities work in co-operation and develop more effective ways to self-govern and manage the economy. Diverse communities learn from and work with each other to tackle the huge challenges we face, rather than letting the root cause of the problems lead to conflict and further polarisation.

The Results Social impacts of our actions

We believe that, working with our stakeholders and communities, it is important to constantly measure, evaluate and improve the impact of our work, which includes:

- Establishment of new growers.
- Creation of new social enterprises and co-ops.
- Increased resilience for growers and enterprises.
- Shortened supply chains for urban partners.
- School children eating healthier, more sustainable food.
- Broadened and increased access to sustainable food.
- New skills and employment for trainees and volunteers.
- Increased health and well-being.
- Increased resilience of local communities and groups.
- Lower carbon emissions.
- Increased renewable energy generation.
- Increased understanding of food sovereignty.
- More people feeling part of a wider movement for social change.
- Increased biodiversity and improved soil health.

Informed and Strategic
We empower people to make informed and scientifically grounded decisions.
We seek to change policy in the arenas in which can demonstrate viable alternatives and will have the greatest social impact.

Democratic and Co-operative
We practice and promote meaningful democracy through the way we work and live, providing an example of community ownership, co-operation and collaborative working.

Enterprising and Constructive
We work to strengthen urban and rural communities and create sustainable food economies. We generate meaningful livelihoods by providing training and establishing and incubating innovative enterprises.

Ecological
With the urgent need to address climate change we focus on pioneering, practicing and promoting agro-ecological land-use and sustainable food systems.

Radical
We focus on solutions that address problems at their root cause, by supporting others to do the same, we act as a catalyst for social change.

Equitable and Just
We challenge social, economic and ecological inequality both locally and globally.
We support communities to create their own solutions, and stand in solidarity with food sovereignty and social change movements globally.

Activities Projects, partners and the farm's planned activities

Kindling Farm

Our Projects

FarmStart, Land Army, Health and Well-being programme, Woodbank Community Food Hub, Feeding Greater Manchester

• **Incubated Enterprises**
Veg Box People, Manchester Veg People

• **Urban Partnerships:**
Bridge 5 Mill, Fairfield Recycling

Sowing Ideas

- Low-impact Housing
- Appropriate Technology and Renewable Energy
- Low-carbon living

Growing Livelihoods

- Agroecological farming
- Agri-tourism
- Social Enterprise Hub

Fuelling Action

- Centre for Social Change
- Social Change Champions
- Stronger Sustainable Food Movement

Our Objectives Our strategy to address these challenges

The Kindling Trust's objectives:

- Practise and promote sustainable land use.
- Make local organic food production a viable livelihood.
- Acknowledge the true value of food and those producing it.
- Increase availability of sustainable food, ensuring its access becomes a right and not just a privilege.
- Seek to change policy both through advocacy and practical examples.
- Help build a stronger, more unified voice for the sustainable food movement.
- Incubate and support innovative and co-operative models of enterprise.

The Kindling Farm's objectives:

- To own and manage land in a not-for-profit manner for the benefit of the community
- Promote sustainable land use by becoming a model stock-free agro-ecological farm, embedded within its community.
- Increase consumption of local, seasonal and directly traded goods through alternative local distribution systems.
- Strengthen local economies and establish land-based livelihoods through the support and creation of sustainable enterprises by providing facilities, resources, advice, training, services and trading opportunities.
- Support change makers by providing

- training, inspiration and resources to support people to create the change they want to see.
- Foster symbiotic relationships between urban and rural partners to nurture the exchange of services, resources, goods and ideas.
 - Support local communities by providing training and volunteering opportunities to improve skills, health, well-being and self-worth.
 - Provide low impact housing and other services for the benefit of the local community.
 - Promote and practice co-operative and consensual ways of working and living to become an example of community ownership and control.

The Challenge The problems we are working to address

We have allowed all aspects of society to become driven by profit and power creating a mainstream culture and economy that rewards self-interested behaviour, over care for the commons and each other. This has resulted in profound and far reaching consequences in terms of the following:

Ecological Crisis

- Climate change
- Over-exploitation of natural resources
- Waste and pollution
- Declining biodiversity and species extinction leading to a weakened ecosystem

Economic Inequality

- Poverty and unemployment
- Lack of access to land and rural housing
- Inequality of land ownership and land speculation
- Monopolies and concentration of economic power leading to a lack of resilience.
- Exploitation and undervaluing of workers

Social Injustice

- Disempowerment and political disengagement
- Unequal life chances and access to Education, employment and other opportunities
- Health and food inequality
- Social isolation and a lack of community cohesion