

COMMUNITY HARVEST WHETSTONE

Recruitment of Assistant Grower

Friday 17th July 2026

About Community Harvest Whetstone

Community Harvest Whetstone (CHW) is a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) members' co-operative that provides a fresh, seasonal vegetable share throughout the year to around 50 member households. We grow using regenerative and organic principles, working collaboratively to produce high-quality food while building healthy soils, supporting biodiversity and strengthening our local community.

As a grower, you will work as part of a small team responsible for planning, producing and harvesting a diverse range of vegetables throughout the year. This is a practical, physically demanding role requiring flexibility, initiative and a commitment to collaborative working.

JOB DESCRIPTION	
Job Title	Assistant Grower
Location	Community Harvest Whetstone Field and Poly Tunnels
Line Manager	Hannah Watkins – Senior Grower
Contract Type	Part Time and Fixed Term
Hours Per Week	20
Working Pattern	To be agreed on appointment. Can include early, late and weekend hours.
Salary	Real Living Wage - £13.45 per hour
Start Date	ASAP

JOB DESCRIPTION

Main Responsibilities

Crop Production

- Work collaboratively with fellow growers and volunteers to produce a diverse range of vegetables throughout the year.
- Grow crops in accordance with regenerative agriculture practices and organic growing principles, across both field and polytunnel systems.
- Carry out all aspects of crop production, including:
 - sowing (modules and direct drilling)
 - transplanting
 - crop establishment and maintenance

- irrigation management
- composting and fertility building
- weed management
- pest and disease monitoring and management
- crop rotation
- polytunnel management
- harvesting
- Operate machinery, including a tractor where suitably trained and experienced.

Crop Planning and Harvest

- Work from the annual cropping plan to ensure a varied and continuous supply of produce for the weekly vegetable share.
- Monitor crop performance and contribute to planning adjustments throughout the season.
- Harvest, wash and prepare vegetables for weekly distribution, including additional harvests during the week where required.

Team Working

- Communicate effectively with growers and volunteers to co-ordinate daily and weekly work programmes.
- Attend and contribute to regular growers' meetings.
- Work independently when required, while maintaining close communication and effective handovers with the team.

Site Maintenance

- Assist with the maintenance of infrastructure, tools and growing areas.
- Carry out minor repairs and maintenance, where appropriate and within competence.

Budget and Resource Management

- Use resources efficiently and responsibly.

Community Engagement

As a community-led project, growers also support wider community activities, including:

- Assisting with community events, farm tours and shared community meals

Professional Responsibilities

- Demonstrate a commitment to the principles of Community Supported Agriculture.
- Work in accordance with health and safety policies and safeguarding procedures.
- Promote equality, diversity and inclusion in all aspects of work.
- Be flexible in responding to changing priorities, seasonal demands and weather conditions.

Essential	How assessed
Experience of growing vegetables in a market garden, CSA, horticultural or similar setting	Application / Interview
Knowledge of agroecological, regenerative and/or organic growing principles	Application / Interview
Experience of crop establishment, maintenance and harvesting	Application / Interview

Essential	How assessed
Ability to organise and prioritise work to meet seasonal demands	Interview
Ability to work both independently and collaboratively	Application / Interview
Good communication skills	Application / Interview
Ability to adapt to changing priorities and weather conditions	Interview
Willingness to work outdoors in a physically demanding role throughout the year	Application / Interview
Commitment to equality, inclusion and respectful working practices	Application / Interview
Commitment to safe working practices	Application / Interview
An interest in, or commitment to, the values of Community Supported Agriculture	Application / Interview

Recruitment Process

1. Applicants should provide a one or two page letter outlining their past experience, reason for interest in the role, availability and any other supporting information, by email to grow@communityharvest.co.uk.
2. Deadline for applications is 2nd August 2026.
3. The CHW Recruitment Committee will shortlist from information provided.
4. Shortlisted applicants will meet the Senior Grower for a tour of the site and a discussion about the working practices, expectations and any other questions on both sides.
5. Following the meeting with the Senior Grower, applicants will attend a short interview with the Recruitment Committee which will consist of two members of the CHW Management Committee.
6. A decision on recruitment will be made by the Recruitment Committee and the Senior Grower.
7. This is an urgent role and appropriate candidates will be interviewed as they apply.