



Distington Community Trust

Distington Club For Young People, Main Street,
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Plans for the management and maintenance of the Distington Community Garden

The garden site is owned by the Distington Community Trust (DCT), a registered charitable community benefit society. The Trust has overall control and responsibility for the site, including matters such as insurance, security and safeguarding.

The garden will include 16 or 17 individual allotment plots plus several shared gardens and growing features such as wildflower area, fruit trees and bushes and raised planters. The site will also include off street parking provision for over 30 vehicles.

The trustees of DCT are also developing agency partnerships with local organisations such as the Parish Council, local schools, churches, the community centre and youth club, care homes and local businesses. We see this as a way of increasing footfall and diversity among users but also an aid to fundraising.

A user group cooperative will be set up with plot holders and other users of the garden. Certain responsibilities for day-to-day management and maintenance of the site, will be delegated by the Trust to the user group/ committee. (eg holding of keys, tool sharing, shared area maintenance, waste collection etc).

The site will be monitored by the user group cooperative with oversight by DCT, and should misuse occur then a schedule of locking access points can be implemented. The cooperative will liaise with site users and residents to agree a workable plan for locking both pedestrian and vehicle gates.'

During the development phase of the project, the DCT trustees are directing the development. They are being supported by the part time project worker from the Distington Big Local and the Area Advisor from the national Big Local programme. The capital costs of the initial development of the site are being provided by the DCT and the Big Local (National Lottery) programme. These funds are already in place.

Funds are being allocated and sought for a part time project worker to support the user group in the early years of the project.

Income for the ongoing maintenance of the garden will be derived from charitable grants and donations, plot holder fees and occasional fund-raising events.

Our draft targets by the end of 12 months in operation (ie by June 2026) are as follows –

MEASURE	TARGET
Allotment plots let	15+
Individual or household signed up as members	100+
Agency partnerships	10+



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User footfall (per month average)	200+
Members of user group cooperative	20+