

V4/5/26



Communigrow Wish List 2026

Communigrow is an award-winning sustainable food education charity and community garden based in East Malling, Kent. We provide sustainable community gardening opportunities to educate and improve wellbeing, with a particular focus on growing chemical free food.

At our 2.4 acre environmentally friendly 'off grid' site, we have solar panels for our energy, we make our own compost, use sustainable growing methods such as 'no dig' and take care of wildlife through a range of means including a wildflower meadow, wildlife ponds, dead hedges and other natural habitats.

Our charity promotes the mental and physical health benefits of gardening, being active outside and being part of a supportive and inclusive community group.

We also champion the benefits of eating fresh produce, with a 'Field to Fork' cookery element in many of our sessions.

We work with the whole community, particularly supporting vulnerable or disadvantaged groups: children, young people and adults with special educational needs, people experiencing bereavement, older adults and those with long-term health conditions.

Our charity benefits from the on-going support and generosity of organisations and individual donors through in-kind, monetary, fundraising or pro bono support.

Our wish list below identifies resources that we need to maintain our services and support our beneficiaries while also supporting our environmental aims.

Can you help us by funding or providing any of the following items? We would love to celebrate your donation on our social media pages and newsletters.

Email marketing@communigrow.org.uk to pledge your support.



Sponsor a Sustainable Raised Bed – a little step towards making a big change

Our chemical free, no-dig raised beds use less water and release less CO₂, making use of sustainable growing methods to grow our fresh veg. Each bed has its own growing plan – with the food it grows supporting our educational and



community activities – and each one providing a new resource for the therapeutic work we do with both young people and adults. The outcomes for therapeutic gardening at Commuigrow are fantastic, so each one of these beds represents an opportunity to improve local lives.

For more information on the benefits of no-dig, [visit the Royal Horticultural society website.](#)

Individuals and businesses can sponsor a vegetable bed at Commuigrow.

Sponsorship options: £120, £240, £360 or £500 for an annual plot sponsorship

Sponsorship includes a plaque bearing the donor's name and/or logo displayed by the raised beds in the garden.

Improve our Wellbeing Tea Garden seating area

We have lots of different groups (beneficiaries, volunteers and staff) using our Tea Garden seating area. In therapeutic sessions the tea breaks – a chance to reduce loneliness, speak about things that are concerning you, meet new people and feel part of a community – are as important as the therapeutic gardening activities.

Our beneficiary numbers have grown every year. Rising from 443 in 2021 to over 1240 in 2025. In 2025/26 we added three new therapeutic gardening groups: our Garden Gate group, for people experiencing bereavement, our Time Out group for veterans and emergency services personnel and our Dose of Nature group for people living with Type 2 Diabetes or Hypertension. As a result, we are now a very busy site in need of more seating!

First impressions count, particularly when working with people who have experienced grief or trauma. We want to make our social areas as welcoming, safe and appealing as possible to encourage people to relax and want to return.

At the moment we have a mismatch of very old donated garden furniture, which is not very appealing, uncomfortable and is often at the end of its usable life. It is also far from ideal for people with limited mobility, disability or who are frail.

Can you help us upgrade the Tea Garden seating, making it a welcoming and inclusive space for the community?

3 x locally made and sustainably sourced weatherproof pressure treated picnic benches with 15 year guarantee costing £935

**Pergola for shade £2500
(includes installation and climbing plants)**



Young Roots Group – funding for one year

This is a fantastic weekly supported volunteering day for young adults who need additional support for various reasons. This may be because they have mild/moderate learning difficulties, are neurodivergent with support needs, may be socially anxious or have other mental health concerns, or who have little or no experience of work or volunteering.

These supportive and inclusive sessions help young adults become more physically active, improve their confidence and mental wellbeing and develop skills that can help them access the workplace.

We have seen participants thrive as part of this wonderful group, going on to study courses in horticulture at college, secure employment, become mentors for other group members and make huge leaps in their social and communication skills.

Each session costs £150 to run

10 sessions = £1500

Annual running costs approx £7300

(that's just £730 per young person for a life enhancing year!)

Can you help transform lives by supporting a block of sessions or even the annual running costs?



Support Our Sustainable Food Garden

Each year our sustainable garden produces plentiful chemical free veg. We use this in our 'Field to Fork' sessions with children, young people and adults where they can harvest and cook with our produce, we sell it to the local community allowing affordable access to chemical free food and we donate it to other charities such as our local food banks and homeless care centres.

More than that, our food garden provides purposeful opportunities for education and therapeutic gardening activities with our beneficiaries - teaching people to grow their own food, helping them connect with nature and the natural environment, fostering a love of fresh, healthy food, and being part of a supportive, inclusive community.

Running the garden costs us £8330 a year and we are looking for a sponsor to help us meet these costs in 2026.

Sponsorship of our food garden in 2026 costs £8330



Event sponsorship: Communigrow Quiz & Bingo Nights

Business sponsors help cover the cost of these popular fundraising and profile-raising events that take place in Spring and Autumn.

Sponsors have their logo featured on all print and digital promotional materials and have a stand at the event itself. The quiz or bingo night is also a great opportunity to reach your local audience – we have more than 100 participants at each one – and they are also fun team-building exercises for your staff.

Cost to sponsor one event: £500



Signage – to inspire and educate!



In 2026 we'd like to improve the signage around our gardens to better inspire and educate our visitors and learners. Signage would explain things like:

- How our Bee Bank habitat works and why bees are so important to the natural world.
- What insects and wildlife can be found around our wetland pond area and popular dipping platform.
- How our no-dig beds work and how visitors can start using these principles in their own green space at home.

We also need a lot of functional direction signage – labeling our different buildings, signs for our vegetable shop etc – and a large 'Welcome to Communigrow' sign with a map of all our gardens and an explanation of their purposes.

Sponsors will have their support acknowledged on our signs.

Prices from £ 250

Sole Sponsorship of all our signs would be in the region of £3000–£4000

Gardening/Field School Equipment – donations in kind

Giving our beneficiaries the best experience involves constantly repairing or replacing our essential tools and equipment, items like:

- Gardening Kneelers x 20
- Children's watering cans 2 litre x 10
- Children's gardening tools – trowels, forks, small hoes etc. x10
- Children's gardening gloves (in a range of sizes) x 15
- Biodegradable growing pots – coir

In-kind or pro bono donations

There are many diverse ways to help CommuniGrow. While the items on this list have been identified as the most pressing need, we gratefully welcome donations of time, skills and your business product.

In-kind donation might include:

- Donations of garden furniture
- Printing of our info/flyers
- Digital marketing support (money for direct campaigns, signal boosting)
- Prizes for our events, particularly our Open Day on June 20th 2026

Pro bono support might include:

- Legal advice
- IT solutions