

Blewbury Garden Market



A Guide for Producers

The **Blewbury Garden Market** is open every Saturday morning from 9.15 to 11.15 am, starting in April and running through September. It takes place on the forecourt of Blewbury Service Station.

The aim of the Market is to give Blewbury people an opportunity to sell excess home-grown or home-made produce and plants in an informal setting rather like a communal 'garden gate'. It forms part of Sustainable Blewbury's initiative to promote local food and to reduce waste.

We welcome all types of home produce for sale. This includes fresh fruit and vegetables, cut flowers, all kinds of seedlings, bedding plants and perennials, free-range eggs, and home cooking – including preserves such as jams and chutneys, bread, cakes and biscuits, and apple juice and cordials.

Producers set their own prices for their produce. A 10% levy is taken by the Garden Market to cover our costs.

Produce should be brought to the stall between 9.00 and 9.15 am on Saturdays and registered with one of the stall helpers. The produce should be packaged in bags, pots, etc. ready for taking home. Food should be appropriately wrapped. A form listing the different items you are selling, the number of each type of item and the price per item allows us to keep track of what has and has not been sold. **Please complete this form before you come to the stall** – it can be downloaded from our website at:

www.sustainable-blewbury.org.uk/ProduceStallList.pdf. Printed copies are available from the weekly stall or on request

Each item of produce should be labelled with (i) what it is, (ii) producer's name, (iii) price and (iv) any additional information. Additional information depends on the item involved, but for frost-sensitive, half-hardy plants, we assume that the plants have been hardened off for at least one week before sale. If not, please add a warning note to that effect. For cooked items, any special information about the ingredients and possible allergens should be given, e.g. gluten- or dairy-free, contains nuts, etc.

It is your responsibility to pick up, or arrange to have picked up, any unsold items at 11.15. If you can't be there at that time we can usually arrange something. If you would like to know if

all your produce has been sold so you do not need to come back at the end, we can phone you. Any unsold items that are unclaimed will be disposed of.

Your filled-in form showing how much was sold will be returned to you the following week. You can re-use the forms for as long as there is space for your goods. Payments will be made in cash a couple of times during the season, not every week as before. (This is partly to compensate for the extra work involved due to accepting cashless payments. If this delay is a problem please let us know.) If you don't claim your money it will remain available for collection later

Various pieces of food hygiene legislation apply to the sale of food. In particular, if you are more than an occasional seller of *cooked* food at the stall, then we will be happy to discuss the implications of this with you.

For more information, please contact us at: info@sustainable-blewbury.org.uk.

Eric Eisenhandler

Written April 2013; updated Sept. 2017, May 2018, April 2019, May 2021 and March–June 2023.