



## Derrybeg Farm joining pack

- This pack consists of:
- members' information pages that you should read and keep for reference (pages 1-4)
- joining form (pages 5 and 6)
- new members survey form (page 7)
- the beneficiary details you will need to put on your bank's standing order form, if you decide to pay in installments using a standing order, or if you wish to pay directly to Derrybeg Farm Credit Union account.

Please

- Read the members' information pages (pages 1-4) and keep them for your own reference
- Complete the joining form (pages 5 and 6)
- Complete the new members survey form (optional)
- Return the joining form and the survey form to the membership coordinator, Micheál Walsh, 3 Beaufield Green, Maynooth, Co Kildare.
- Pay your membership fee by one of the methods below:
  1. Enclose a cheque or postal order for the full amount of the membership you are taking, with your membership form **or**
  2. Get a standing order form from your bank and complete it using the beneficiary details on page 6 of this pack **or**
  3. Pay the amount to Derrybeg Farm Credit Union account (details are on page 6 of this pack).
  4. If you wish to pay cash, please contact our Treasurer, Liam O'Toole at 085-7117358

If you have questions about anything in the joining pack, you can email the membership coordinator, at [membership@derrybegfarm.ie](mailto:membership@derrybegfarm.ie), or you can phone Liam O'Toole at **085-7117358**

## **Information for members: please read and keep this section (pages 1-4)**

The aim of Derrybeg Farm is to integrate community and agriculture in a mixed, biodiverse, sustainable and environmentally responsible farm, managed for the benefit of everyone involved. The farm can thrive by having direct commitment from local supporters. We hope to develop a rich diversity of livestock, crops and wildlife that will change and develop with the opportunities and interests of the support community and those who work the land. The support community is made up of people who commit to the farm aims. The community organises activities to provide enjoyment and understanding of food and farming for its members, to develop their connection to the life of the earth and their sense of responsibility to and involvement in the farm enterprise.

### **Membership categories commencing March 2018 for 12 months**

Weekly box sufficient for 4-6 people: €800 full fee = €66.67 per month for 12 months = €15 per week.

Weekly box sufficient for 2-4 people: €600 full fee = €50 per month for 12 months = €11.50 per week.

Weekly box sufficient for 1 person: €400 full fee = €33.33 per month for 12 months = €7.50 per week.

Social membership for a household: €30 annual fee.

**Fees can be paid in full or in monthly instalments, for all food memberships.** It is not possible to pay in weekly instalments. Social membership must be paid in full.  
**The cost of social and food membership shares may rise annually in line with inflation**

### **Our ethos and values**

#### **The members of Derrybeg farm strive to:**

- Practice mixed, biodiverse, organic and sustainable agriculture that respects the earth, animals and people involved.
- Pioneer an economic model based on mutual benefit and shared risk and ensure that the farmers have a decent livelihood.
- Be a part of making our local community more sustainable, resilient and self reliant
- Help people who have no background in farming to become involved in farming and food production
- Encourage practical involvement of members and supporters at all levels of running the farm.
- Be transparent in all our affairs.
- Make decisions through deliberation and reach genuine consensus wherever possible.
- Work towards social justice.
- Be participatory, collaborative and egalitarian and respect everybody who takes part
- Listen to all shades of opinion and all questions and doubts among our members.
- Discuss differences and work to accommodate them and benefit from them.
- Offer opportunities for learning about food and farming and for connection with the life of the earth.
- Network with others to promote community-supported agriculture in other communities and farms and to share our learning (social, economic and farming).
- Encourage members, in co-operation with the farmers, to use the farm for their individual and social activities and celebrations.
- Develop a sense of community around the farm.
- Achieve a financial situation where low income shall not exclude anyone.
- Work co-operatively with other enterprises that share our principles.

**If you have questions about the forms, or if you want to discuss community supported agriculture, you can phone Liam O'Toole at 085-7117358 or email the membership coordinator, Micheál Walsh, at [membership@derrybegfarm.ie](mailto:membership@derrybegfarm.ie)**

### **What is in a food box?**

A box will contain a variety of produce for the twelve months. In the winter we'll have a supply of winter salads including lettuce as well as standing crops such as cabbage, kale, leek, parsnips and Jerusalem artichoke, also potatoes, beetroot, celeriac, butternut squash and carrots from store. In spring it will be mostly fresh salad leaves such as loose leaf lettuce, rocket and oriental greens. As the year progresses we will start to produce peas, spring onions, spinach, radishes, white turnip and baby carrots. Coming into summer we'll start to have tomatoes, courgettes, cucumber, melon, french beans, beetroots, carrots, fennel and salad potatoes. All of these will continue through autumn with late additions including broccoli and squashes.

Please note that some of this harvest may not be available; it depends on the weather and other conditions. Membership of the farm involves sharing the risk of a poor harvest with the farmer and the other members.

### **Collecting your food**

Produce will be harvested on Saturdays and members will be alerted by text when the bags are ready for collection.

Your bags will be available for collection from the container at the farm in Mooretown (opposite the Salesian college).

Ideally you should collect your bag as soon as possible as salads etc. will begin to wilt if not refrigerated. Food that has not been collected by Thursday will be put into the shared box for common collection.

We encourage members to collect vegetables for each other in order to minimise travel. To make this easier to organise and to help build a community around the farm we encourage members to share their contact details. If a critical number of members come from a specific town they can arrange a common pick-up point. The farmers or volunteer members could drop off the bags to this point.

### **Member involvement**

Everyone is welcome to visit the farm at any time, participate in our management and planning work groups, join in our celebrations and come to the Farm Days. Derrybeg Farm also welcomes people who would like to join the community purely for the social benefits. As the project succeeds we hope that the ways of working will expand to other farms and enterprises so that more people can get involved in this way of farming.

### **Bursary scheme**

If you feel that the fees are too much, then please contact Liam O'Toole on 085-7117358 or email the membership coordinator, Micheál Walsh, at [membership@derrybegfarm.ie](mailto:membership@derrybegfarm.ie). We have a bursary scheme to assist members on a low income. It may also be possible to arrange some work-share memberships if you have skills that are of value to the farm. We would need to discuss this in detail with you as this scheme is only in its infancy.

***The cost of social and food membership shares may rise annually in line with inflation***

**Regular monthly payments**

Since the farm needs support throughout the year, monthly payments need to continue even if you are on holiday. You can arrange for a friend to collect and use your vegetables when you are away. If nobody can collect them for you, please phone or text Nathan, our farmer, at 087-6195518, so that the excess can be distributed among the other members. If you decide to stop your standing order then you may need to join a waiting list before you can rejoin. Derrybeg Farm needs three months' notice for cancellation of a Food Share. This ensures that the farm is supported and gives us time to recruit someone to take your place.

**Personal-details and joining form**

Please complete this personal-details and joining form below and return to the membership coordinator, **Micheál Walsh, 3 Beaufield Green, Maynooth, Co Kildare**, or else scan it in PDF format to **membership.derrybeg.farm@gmail.com**

How to pay:

1. If you are sending a cheque, you can enclose it with the form.
2. You can also go to the Bank of Ireland, Celbridge or to Celbridge and District Credit Union and make a payment using the beneficiary details on the next page.
3. If you are using a standing order, get one from your bank, complete it using the beneficiary details on the next page and return the form to your bank.
4. Ring our treasurer, Liam O'Toole, on 087-6195518 if you wish to make a payment in cash

Name/s: .....

Address: .....

.....

email: .....

Phone:.....

I/we wish to become a member of Derrybeg Farm for a 12 month period starting March 2017, in the following category (tick box):

- €800 full fee = €66.67 per month for 12 months = €15 per week.
- €600 full fee = €50 per month for 12 months = €11.50 per week.
- €400 full fee = €33.33 per month for 12 months = €7.50 per week.

I would like to make a donation to the bursary fund, which will support other members on a low income. Amount of donation: €

I would like to help purchase farm equipment with a loan or a gift  €

Grand total: €

Please tick the relevant boxes below:

- I will pay this grand total in full
- I will pay this total in 12 monthly instalments (it is not possible to pay in weekly instalments)

For 2018, we need to receive your form and payment (or first payment, if you are paying by instalments) by Mar 1st, 2018

If you are paying by standing order, you need to get a form from your own bank and fill it in using the beneficiary details below. **Please ensure that you provide all of the details required.**

**Beneficiary details:**

Account Name: CELBRIDGE DISTRICT C.U.(Credit Union)  
 Sort code: 900914  
 Account Number: 91915010  
 Reference: 13779 (this is the reference no for the Derrybeg Farm account)  
 IBAN: IE03BOFI90091491915010

We will keep your contact details on a database, use it only for farm communications and share it only with farm members.

I have read the members' information pages and I sign up to this project at my own risk. I understand that by becoming a member of Derrybeg Farm, I support the aims, principles and working processes of the farm described in the information pages of the joining pack and on the website.

I also understand that although Derrybeg Farm will do its best to supply consistent quantities of food at regular intervals, there is no guarantee of specific produce, quantity or delivery times.

***I understand that I must give at least thirteen weeks notice to cancel my membership or vegetable share.***

I/we want to become a member of Derrybeg Farm. I/We agree to the aims and working processes of the Farm and the ethos and principles set out in the members' information pages.

I/ We also agree to pay the cost of membership.

NAME/s:

Signed: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

***Derrybeg Farm wishes to be inclusive of all kinds of households and of households with special circumstances. Please let us know if there are ways which we can facilitate you in your membership, or of ways in which you would like to contribute to the work of the farm.***