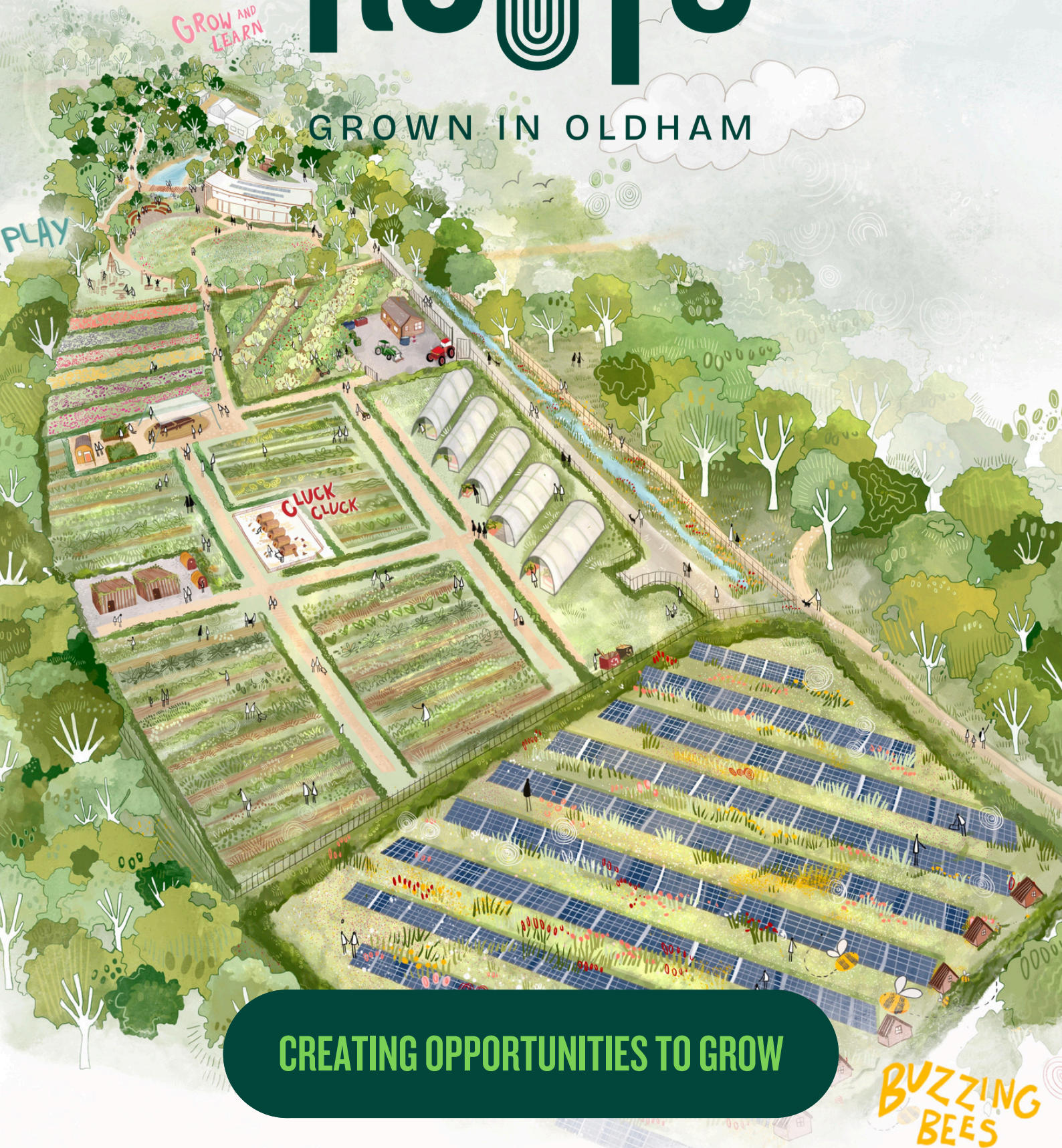


# NORTHERN ROOTS

GROWN IN OLDHAM



CREATING OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW

BUZZING  
BEES

# COMMUNITY GARDENER



**Salary:** £26,000 pro rata

**Contract:** Fixed term, May 2026 to March 2027. 22.5hr/week spread over 4 days. Days can be discussed but as the charity works towards opening the Welcome Building, the post holder will have to transition to a weekend day for a session.

**Organisation:** The employing organisation is Northern Roots (Oldham) Ltd, company no 11258080.

**Location:** Northern Roots, Oldham

**Holiday entitlement:** 25 days' holiday per year (excluding public holidays) pro rata for part time working.

**Pension contribution:** 3%

## Summary:

This is an exciting opportunity to be part of the Northern Roots project. Northern Roots is transforming 160 acres of urban green space into a destination for learning, leisure and growing. The charity aims to benefit the environment, and to improve the health, wellbeing and livelihoods of local communities.

Northern Roots will open a brand-new **Welcome Building, Forestry Skills Centre** and four more acres of **Urban Farm** in autumn 2026. The Welcome Building will include a shop, café, and multifunctional spaces for hire among other developments.

The Land Team have been busy developing the first phase of the urban farm – Brook Mill Gardens. Over the last three seasons, we have worked with volunteers, young people and the community to develop growing areas, polytunnels and a community garden. The farm has produced high quality food for the local community and visitors.

Northern Roots is looking for a Community Gardener to help manage the **1.2-acre Brook Mill Gardens** for the local community, **Natural Health Service** participants and visitors, and be involved in **wider site management**.



As the farm expands, the Community Gardener will help **transition Brook Mill Gardens to a multi-use community space** including our Natural Health Service garden. They will be involved in **leading and facilitating sessions** with the community and our current Natural Health Service participants.

# COMMUNITY GARDENER



Northern Roots is looking to **expand its volunteering opportunities** and the Community Gardener, with the aid of the wider team, will establish new sessions.

A key aspect of the role will be to co-create, maintain and make accessible our therapeutic outdoor spaces at Brook Mill Gardens. This part of the role blends **practical land skills with relational sensitivity**, helping to ensure our outdoor spaces are held with care and intention.

Our Growers and Rangers work closely together managing the land, so expect to be supported and lend a hand in a wide variety of tasks. Alongside staff helping to shape the space, we have a thriving team of dedicated volunteers, regular Natural Health Service participants that value the space, and groups/trainees from schools, colleges and businesses. The space is also used by our land-based businesses, such as a blacksmith and a beekeeper, so the Community Gardener would join our agroecological community. Working with this community, you will support the development of our anti-cancer forest garden, wildflower and meditation areas, sensory and accessible allotment beds.



## Job Purpose:

The post holder has no immediate line management responsibilities; however, they will be responsible for the supervision of volunteers and any trainees under them.

## Key Tasks:

- Maintain and develop Brook Mill Gardens including crop/plant growing, bed building, weeding, harvesting etc. Due to the late start date of the role the farm team are sowing extra or some crops for the post holder.
- Establish and support **community and engagement activities** around growing and land work.
- Support the delivery of **Natural Health Service** activities; specifically:
  1. Co-ordinating and guiding wellbeing volunteers in gentle, relational, sensory-aware ways
  2. Supporting participants to take part in light gardening, nature-based tasks and seasonal projects
  3. Helping maintain the beauty, accessibility and **therapeutic quality** of our wellbeing garden spaces
  4. Collaborating with the Natural Health Service team to align land-based activities with programme themes and participant needs
  5. Offering a warm, grounded presence during sessions, open gardens and small group activities
- Work with the Land Team to **support a wide array of land-based work** across the site.
- To upkeep and, at time, create record systems using Microsoft Office software, or other appropriate software.
- To contribute ideas and experience to the Northern Roots project. We are in the initial phases of a number of projects and invite your contribution.
- To join in staff meetings and work with the Northern Roots team to collaborate on projects that take place across the charity.

## How to apply

Email your **CV** and a **cover letter (no more than 2 pages)** to [info@northern-roots.uk](mailto:info@northern-roots.uk).

**Application Deadline:** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 12 midnight

Have a question? Email [info@northern-roots.uk](mailto:info@northern-roots.uk)