



Shelthorpe Community Association represents the voice of the community in Shelthorpe, Charnwood. It meets regularly to allow residents of Shelthorpe to raise their concerns and work together on activities they can carry out – like community fun days or community projects.

The community gardening project runs sessions every Tuesday and Saturday. Residents are invited to try their hand at gardening, composting and recycling (using plastic tubs, toilet rolls etc for planting). Last year Shelthorpe Community Association learnt that people are afraid of the commitment to take on an allotment or even part of the garden, hence this year the community group are running the garden as a joint project. Our team in Charnwood worked at Shelthorpe Community Garden in order to create raised flower beds to assist Shelthorpe Community Association in their mission.

Before



After



## Key Statistics

1 work experience opportunity



1 of 2 estate improvements schemes per year



9 employees from Fortem helped in the transformation



68 hours of time invested



**“The whole garden looks transformed, and everyone involved worked really well. The section of the garden that was worked on looks fabulous. Thank you all for your hard work.” Nadja Rein, Neighbourhood Development Office, Charnwood Borough Council.**



## Reason for the works

When talking with residents around the garden, Charnwood Borough Council identified people with disabilities and back problems needed suitable adjustments to be able to work in the garden. The idea of raised beds was suggested, with Loughborough University and Charnwood Borough Council providing funding which allowed the Council to buy wood for the project. Our team came and built three large raised beds - two of which allow multiple use.



## People involved

Nine people from around our business volunteered their time in the effort to convert the garden at Shelthorpe. This included multiple trades people, our community team and Management Trainees. A work experience student from Loughborough college also supported the development of the garden.



## Social impact

By completing this project it has made the community activity available to all, regardless of any physical ailments or disability.

After the work was completed, one side of the flowerbed is suitable for wheelchair users to access it, and from the other side it would be suitable for standing, which will allow people who suffer with back problems to enjoy gardening.