

GREAT BADDOW PARISH COUNCIL ALLOTMENTS NEWSLETTER

May 2017

It has been a while since the last allotment newsletter and hopefully some of you will have noticed that there has been an increase in activity on both allotment sites.

As mentioned in last year's newsletter, the Parish Council has been and is still in the process of carrying out a Grounds Review. One of the changes made has been the recent appointment of a Grounds Supervisor to work alongside the two grounds staff who are based in the Recreation Ground office.

The other change is that as well as working on the Vicarage Lane site, the outside contractors have been temporarily drafted in to assist with grounds maintenance on the Towerfield site, although this will shortly be coming to an end.

Allotment Inspections

Allotment inspections are now back in full swing. If you haven't yet started preparing your allotment for the year ahead...be warned! Any tenants whose plots are deemed to be in an uncultivated condition will be written to and the plot monitored for further progress. Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of the tenancy agreement may result in the termination of the tenancy.

If you are considering giving up an allotment please inform the office in writing as soon as possible, instead of waiting until the end of the rent year. By doing this, the plot may be offered to another individual before it becomes overgrown.

Non-Compostable Waste

I would like to remind all tenants of the importance of keeping non-compostable items to a minimum on allotment plots. This follows the removal of 3 ¼ tonnes of non-compostable waste that had been collected from both sites, and loaded by hand into a 40-yard skip. Unfortunately, even with a skip this large there is still rubbish remaining. Any items that are not compostable **must** be removed from site by the tenant prior to vacating a plot. If the Council has to carry out works to re-let the plot, you may be required to reimburse the Council for reasonable costs.

Dumping

Sadly it would appear that we have a problem on the Vicarage Lane site with people dumping rubbish in to the brook. Illegally dumped waste damages wildlife, pollutes waterways and is an eyesore. If you know who is responsible for this or have any suspicions about who it could be, please report them to Michele Dixon on 01245 473538.

Vacant Plots

The Parish Council continues to have a number of vacant plots on both allotment sites, so if you know anyone that might be interested in growing their own fruit and vegetables, please ask them to give us a call!

Best Kept Allotment Competition

Summer is fast approaching and it will not be long before visitors with clipboards will be amongst you looking for this year's allotment winners. Keep your eyes peeled!

Trading Hut

For all our new allotment tenants, please note that Great Baddow Horticultural Society run a Trading Hut in the car park of the Vicarage Lane allotment site.

Opening times are:

SATURDAYS

March to October inclusive 9.30am to 12 noon
November to February 9.30am to 11.00am

SUNDAYS

March to May inclusive 9.30am to 11.00am

To trade at the hut you must be a member. Any non-members wanting to trade can join at the hut prior to making a purchase. A full range of horticultural goods are available including composts, fertilisers, herbicides, insecticides and miscellaneous items including canes, fleece, string, twine and seed trays.

SHEDS

Please would all tenants note that should you wish to erect a new shed or replace or repair an existing shed, specifications must conform to current Council guidelines and be submitted to the Clerk for approval prior to the work being carried out.

CONTACT US

If you need to speak to the Parish Council about any matters relating to the allotment sites, please contact Michele Dixon on 01245 473538.

The Parish Council also has an allotment representative at each site, Mr T Hull at Towerfield and Mr M Harris at Vicarage Lane.

Great Baddow Parish Council

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