

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

APRIL 2021

ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The allotments have run extremely efficiently over the last two years in no small part to a committed and dedicated team of allotment officers, Rob Flake and Geoff Pratt, ably assisted by committee members. Fortunately, government restrictions allowed allotments to remain open as the pandemic struck and with the necessary health and safety measures put in place, our Cemetery Lane site became a welcome respite to tenants as they tended their plots during the barmy weather of spring lockdown.

We have had issues with rats and squirrels but have worked hard to minimise their impact, working with tenants, and helping them to make changes to their plots that try to discourage vermin. The roads are an ongoing issue and work will begin on this years remedials later in spring. It is hard to strike an uneasy balance between tarmacking the roads or to leave them as they are with piecemeal repair work as to create a smooth track will inevitably result in cars speeding down them, at least now for the sake of their suspension, they must take it steady!

There have been some problem plots, but we try to work with the tenant to get things sorted and sometimes these issues cannot be resolved. The allotments must work for the common good and after our Spring inspection last week the committee were delighted with the quality of the plots and only one letter requesting work be carried out had to be sent out. The waiting list remains reasonably short and prospective tenants do not have to wait too long for a plot.

The council purchased the portacabin last year from the Pigeon Club and the committee are kitting it out and it will soon become the clubhouse they have needed for some time.

Thanks to Cllr Gillian Helliwell who kindly manned the cabin on Saturdays throughout March to take rents and to give out the new agreements, which had been missed last year due to the pandemic.

The allotments continue to go from the strength to strength and we are proud of the strong community of tenants who clearly work together in what is a peaceful and idyllic spot.

Cllr Joyce Fletcher

Chairman

Cllr Simon Starrett

Chairman