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the

Kingsclere

Allotment Management Group Newsletter



Allotment Work Day 16 November 2019

10-2pm on Saturday 16 November 2019.

The overhanging trees encroaching from “The Lines” continue to be a problem by reducing light onto the corner plots and preventing the contractors from cutting the grass/undergrowth. We have scheduled a working day to cut down and clear this area. Please come down and help out, even if only for an hour. It will be great to see you all there. Anyone with a chainsaw or heavy-duty loppers/saws, please bring the equipment along.

Save the Date!

Tidy Up

16 Nov 19

10-2pm. Work day to remove overhanging branches on the “Lines”.

Evening Talk

14 Nov 19

7pm @ Village Club. KGA event. Talk by John Baker

AMG AGM

TBC Feb 2020

7.30pm @ Village Club. Meet the Group and have your say.

Reminders

Surplus plants and produce – If you would like to share anything, please place it next to the toilet block and it will be assumed that it is free to take.

Orchard - On plot 1B(b) for PLOT HOLDERS ONLY. It is important to only pick a fair amount and leave enough for everyone. This is the only area of the allotments that is free to plot holders. All other fruit trees/bushes are NOT part of the orchard and are privately owned.

Plot maintenance - ALL PLOTS AND SURROUNDING PATHS MUST BE KEPT IN GOOD ORDER. If you are struggling due to ill health and need help, please contact the AMG before it becomes a problem. Please carefully consider if you wish to keep your allotment and can cope with the maintenance.

1m path - this must be kept clear on the left as you enter the allotments to ensure no damage is done to the fence. This applies to ALL plot holders on Row 1. Any rubbish, weeds and plants must be cleared from this area.

Cars – Please do not bring cars into the allotments when the ground is wet

Toilet – This facility is available during the Spring, Summer and Autumn. Keys, are available from the Parish Clerk with a £5 deposit.

Trespass and Damage/Vandalism - If you suffer any theft or vandalism to your plot, please ring the Police on 101 and also report all instances to the Parish Clerk.

Parish Clerk Notes

Dear Allotment Holders,

Please can all those who bring vehicles onto the allotment site for loading and unloading take care not to travel across anyone else's plot. I have received notification from a plot holder that their crops have been damaged by a vehicle driving over them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all plot holders that vehicles should not be parked on the main paths. Whilst the rules and regulations do not specifically mention the parking the vehicles, Rule 3 clearly stipulates that *"You shall not cause any nuisance or annoyance to the occupier of any other allotment plot, or the public, or occupiers of property adjacent to the Allotment Gardens or **obstruct any path set out by the owners for the use of occupiers of the Allotment Garden.** Failure to comply will result in termination of the Agreement there will be no reimbursement of rent paid."*

Louise Porton

Kingsclere Parish Clerk

Bench & Parking

A tenant has gotten in touch with us to express their concern over the antisocial use of the bench sited at the entrance to the allotments. It was also suggested that the bench was moved to allow more parking in that area. It has since transpired that this tenant was approached by a local resident who was insistent that no one is allowed to park in the spaces next to the allotments. On discussion, most of the Group had also been approached by this man. He made those he approached, feel very intimidated. If this has happened to you, please inform the Parish Clerk. With enough evidence, we can ask the Police / PCSO to speak to this man about his behavior.

The Re-positioning of the bench is not appropriate. This is a memorial seat that the Parish Council was fully consulted over and they approved its position. It is, however, a shame that it is being used inappropriately. If you witness this behavior happening please ring 101. This will enable the police to schedule targeted (days and times) visits to the site to discourage this behavior.

Polytunnels

We asked for feedback and thoughts in the last newsletter regarding the erection of polytunnels at the Allotments. We received 3 responses from tenants. From these responses and discussion by the Group, we have recommended to the Parish Council that any future polytunnels erected, be allowed 1 per plot and limited in size to 2m x 3m. Also that glass greenhouses not be allowed for safety reasons.

Dog Fouling

There have been two instances of dog fouling reported. The Parish Clerk has sent out a reminder to all tenants to keep dogs on a lead whilst visiting the allotments. It is also important to keep the main gate shut to prevent loose dogs from running into the allotments and fouling.

Last thoughts/notices

- **SPARE PRODUCE/PLANTS/EQUIPMENT:**
If you leave something to share by the toilet block and it hasn't been claimed after a couple of weeks, please remove and dispose.
- **MANURE:**
If you know anyone who has a supply of manure and/or can deliver, please let us know as there are several tenants who would like some.



Contact Info and Group Members

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Group Members:

Beth Theobald – Chairperson
Diana Tait
David Hey
Malcolm Dolton
Renate Dolton
Rodney Rosier
Adam Price – Parish Councillor
Nicola Peach – Parish Councillor

Sat 25th/Sun 26th January 10am – 3pm HAMPSHIRE POTATO DAY and SEED SWAP at the Testbourne Community Centre, Micheldever Road, Whitchurch, Hampshire. Talks on the many different potatoes with over 100 varieties of seed potatoes for sale. An interesting and rewarding day meeting seed merchants trading vegetable and herb seed. Seed-swap table too! £2.00 entrance charge, free for children. For further details go to www.potatoday.uk
Our stand – ORGANIC SEEDS for sale – organic Vegetable and Herb seed.
Flower seed including wildflowers