



Editor: Mike McNamara - E14

Notices

Allotment Plot Waiting List

There were no new tenants in December; the waiting list remains at 13.

Allotment Site – Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The committee would like to wish all Tenants a Happy New Year and good luck with the new decade growing season that is now upon us.

Also with a timely reminder, the AGM will be held on Monday March 23rd 2020 at the Oakwood Centre at 7.30pm.

As in previous years the committee is always looking to all Tenants for their input & suggestions to help make the site more attractive & run more efficiently. If you have any suggestions, please send them to the normal email address.

We will issue a Special Bulletin about the AGM in February.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Notices	1
Important Housekeeping Points	1
January - Some To Do's	1
Items of Interest	2
Our Contact Details	2

Important Housekeeping Points

The Main Gate – The Allotment committee would like to remind all allotment holders that you must always close and lock the main gate after entering or leaving the site.

Speed Limit – The speed limit of 5MPH seems to have been ignored by a number of Tenants recently. All Plot holders will have received a copy of a letter sent out by the council a copy of which has also now been attached to the Front Gate entrance.

January – Some To Do's

With the first January of a new decade upon us, the days will start to get a bit longer and although January is considered to be the coldest month of the winter, there is still time to make a start on this year's work.

If the weather allows, here are some tasks to be getting on with for the rest of January.

- If we get any January gales, check your netting/mesh if you already have onion sets in the ground
- Continue to pick Brussels sprouts. Pick them from the base of the plant up, twisting them away from the plant
- Parsnips and leeks can still be left in the ground to be lifted as needed
- If you have not done any, prune your fruit while they are dormant
- Continue to clear up the remains of any unused summer crops & compost
- January is also a good month to sort out your seed potato orders and when they arrive crack on with chitting them
- Nothing to plant out in January except Garlic and Shallots if it is mild. But think about starting some seeds off in a warm place such as a window sill or propagator if you have one
- If the ground is not frozen or too water-logged, there is still some digging that can be done, incorporating compost/organic matter as you go along. For example trenches filled with kitchen peelings for next year's runner beans

Items of interest

Project updates

Pond Update

All on hold at the moment due to the amount of rain during December, some of the pond water was actually coming on to the road entrance to the site; hopefully we can get back on with it during January.



Launchpad Charity – Update

from Carolyn Davies – Lead Coordinator for our Allotment site with Launchpad.

We continue to host corporate volunteers on our site during December with a visit from The Pioneer Group getting the plots ready for Spring planting.



Bee Hives Project

This continues to move forward with a number of people now committing to having a Hive on site. The boundary fence will be erected in January, so

we will be looking for volunteers to assist with this. If you can help with the fence erection, please send your name to the normal address below.

Bee Roadzz Project

We will be looking to start the sowing of seed in the coming months as this project grows.

Notice Board

You may have seen the new Notice Board at the entrance gate has now been installed.



Please let the committee know if you have anything you would like to have anything put on the notice board.

Pallets

We have a small delivery of pallets which can be found next to the shed.

... and Finally

“In the spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.”

Margaret Atwood

Our Contact Details

If you have any suggestions for items that you would like to see covered in further editions of this newsletter, please do contact us at:

readingrdallotments@hotmail.co.uk