

# WOODLEY ALLOTMENTS NEWSLETTER

Gardening In Harmony with Nature

December 2020  
Issue 81

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1. Notices
2. Decembers To-Do's
3. Chairman's 2020 Report
4. Other Items & Site Security

**"Security at the Front Gate"**  
Please ensure that you close and lock the gate when you enter or leave the site.

## Covid-19 – How it still affects us!

Editor: Mike McNamara – E14

### *Covid-19 (Coronavirus)*

New rules will come into force on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. As far as we understand (at the time of writing), visiting Allotments will still be allowed. However, there is still a need to be aware of all the new restrictions and rules concerning the ongoing current health crisis.

We advise all plot holders to protect their hands when touching the gate/padlock when entering/leaving the site – please use the bin bag by the gate to dispose of used gloves/masks.

Plot holders must **NOT** wash their hands (or any of their tools) in the water tanks around the site. Please use your own container/bucket for this. The latest updated (December) advice can be found at...

[National Allotment Society - Covid 19 Emergency Measures](#)

[UK.GOV - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): what you need to do](#)

### *Notices*

**AGM - Report** – As we have not been able to hold an AGM this year due to the Corona Virus Pandemic restrictions, the Allotment Association has put together a report on 2020. You can find this on page 3/4 of this month's newsletter.

**Plot Numbers** – It is a requirement of the Tenants Agreement that all plots be numbered correctly and it is the responsibility of the tenant to do this.

From our last plot inspection we noticed that a number of plots remain un-numbered. Please number your plot.

## December – Some To Do's

December brings us to the end of the calendar year. Have a think about the growing successes of the past year and maybe some of failures and what to do about them. With that in mind, here are some jobs that for this month.

- Keep harvesting Brussel sprouts, check the stakes are firm
- Harvest Winter Cabbage regularly, depending on variety they can remain in the ground for months
- Parsnips and Leeks can remain in the ground to be lifted as needed.
- Continue to dig over cleared plots and cover with well-rotted manure where needed
- Continue to dig a Runner Bean trench & fill with kitchen waste, then cover with soil
- December is a good time to have a clear out of that shed and clean up the tools ready for next season
- Now is also a good time to carry out any structural changes you make want to make to you plot and will provide some good exercise to keep you warm during the shortened cold days
- More tips at [Allotments & Gardens](#) and [Gardeners World](#)

**“What's to grow next season? Now is the time to start planning your next sowings – use our guide on page three”**



**Also don't leave high-value items in your plot shed"**

## End of Year Report – 2020 Cont.

If you have anything stolen it is important that you report it straight away as we may well have a camera close to your plot. On behalf of all the tenants I would like to thank Ian for his work in maintaining the cameras. A new lock for the main gate is on the agenda and hopefully will be approved by the council in December. This lock will be more secure and the keys cannot be copied.

The new web site is up and running with our on line shop. All items for sale raise money for association funds. Please try and support this enterprise and help us to fund future projects that will improve the site.

As the year draws to an end, I would like to thank my fellow committee members for their commitment over the last year. We have managed to hold our committee meetings

## Other Items - Continued

**Allotment Waiting List** – The site continues to attract interest with the waiting list now standing at **63**.

**Plot Inspections** – Another inspection was recently carried out and further plots have been identified as unused. This will result in more plots being allocated to new tenants and reduce our growing waiting list.

**Lauchpad** – Looking for a couple of volunteers to help with digging over part of the plot as not corporate volunteers due to Covid restrictions, let us know if you can help via the normal email.

**For Sale** - 10 large 15 litre water bottles for sale at £3.00/each. Contact [andy.parts@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:andy.parts@hotmail.co.uk)

### Allotment Committee Secretary Post

Duties will include:

- Attend Allotment Committee Meetings
- Create Minutes noting actions and follow-ups to be taken of all Meetings & Circulate to committee members
- Act as an additional liaison with Woodley Town Council for allotment letting/waiting list and other committee related items
- Create Agenda's for upcoming meetings, based on follow-ups/feedback from previous meetings and any new items
- Create Agenda for AGM, based on follow-ups/feedback from previous meetings and any new items
- Liaise with the Newsletter & Website Editor and with the Facebook group.

If you are interested, please contact us via the normal email.

either on site or in the local pub and, despite the challenging conditions, have carried on a normal representing our fellow tenant's interests.

### Allotment Association Financial Statement (Abridged)

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Opening balance as at January 2019 ..... | £1,370.64 |
| Income up to 30/11/20 .....              | £3,143.13 |
|  | £4,513.77 |
| Expenditure up to 30/11/20 .....         | £1,362.97 |
| Closing balance as at 30/11/20 .....     | £3,150.80 |

Full details will be published via a Special Bulletin

### Other Accounts Changes:

- New Lloyds Bank account opened.
- Signatories changed - one removed, one added
- Internet banking set up - for Treasurer & 2 x other committee members.
- New savings account opened - for project money to be put aside.
- To date we have also received £20.99 from our recently launched website shop.



**Paths Between Plots** – As a reminder to all plot holders, please keep the paths between plots free of all items. They are not there to dump weeds and other items on. Let's keep the place tidy please.

### 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](mailto:readingrdallotments@hotmail.co.uk)