

Allotment Report 2nd July

At the last Trustees meeting we were looking at ways to raise funds to replace the fencing on the Rattlesden Road site as most of the wooden posts had rotted.

We looked at two possibilities;

1. Penny's locality budget
2. Looking at further wayleave on two posts that are also on the allotment.

We decided that we would first look into the possibilities of wayleave

There seems to be no paperwork with regards to the £60 wayleave we currently get and we understood that it was for just one post. I have a regular Bed and Breakfast guest who work for UK Power networks and knows the man who deals with wayleave for this area. He has been very helpful and has looked into it for me.

They work to quite a strict payment structure to where exactly poles are. At present we are not being paid for just one pole and if renegotiated today this is how it would have been worked out.

5 x poles @ Hedge and ditch rate [LV Network]= £41.55
1 x pole and stay @ permanent pasture [HV Network] = £14.52
2x Additional Stays @ permanent pasture [HV Network] = £6.46

This equates to an annual Wayleave payment of £62.53 which is about what we are getting now.

How ever he has looked again at the actual positioning and this is what he has come up with but at this stage it is unofficial!

The 2x Northern poles including the pole installed in 2006 are on the fringe of being arable so a revised wayleave could be as follows.

3x poles @ hedge and ditch rate [LV Network] £24.93
2xpoles @arable [LV Network] £61.50
1x pole and stay @permanent pasture [HV Network] =£14.52
2x additional stays @ permanent pasture [HV Network] =£6.46

This would equate to an annual wayleave payment of £107.41

Not quite what we had hoped for but better than nothing!

Unfortunately the land is not classified as "Garden" which means we can't claim the higher rates.

Can I propose that I take this further to claim the higher rate and also approach Penny to see if she could help with further funds from her locality budget. This would be for materials only as the allotment holders would together carry out the work.

Christine Lambert