

Drinkstone Parish Council

Allotments

Report to the Ordinary Meeting Dated Monday 2nd August 2021

Agenda Item; Councillor Portfolios

During the last month I have visited both sets of allotments and can report that the general condition is good on both sites. Although I have had to carry out some maintenance on the old gate leading off Chapel Lane by the shed. I had a gate which I donated and we reused the old furniture. Michael Lambert a fellow trustee assisted me do the job. The rat problem in the lower half of the Gedding Road allotments we were having has been resolved through a change in the way the compost bins are being used and trapping the offending rodents. I have had to replace the old tap and fittings by the shed on the Gedding Road allotments and submitted an expenses claim accordingly for the cost of the replacement parts.

One of the tenants on the Rattlesden Rd allotments wrote to me regarding the use of Metaldehyde slug pellets by another tenant. I have written back explaining that the PC has no powers to dictate the use of legal pest control, however as Metaldehyde pellets become illegal to use from March 2022 we should add a clause into next year's allotment agreements. The same tenant has also made me aware of a rogue Muntjac straying onto the plots. It is the plot holder's responsibility to protect their crops from pests and therefore netting vulnerable plants will be suggested as used on Gedding Road to protect against the same.

There are currently two people on the waiting list for plots on the Gedding Road site.

I attempted a further couple of times to submit the annual return to the Charities Commission, however due to Covid they are not able to process any returns at the moment and I was advised to keep trying.

Prepared by Cllr Edmondson

12th July 2021