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Clerk: Mrs Roz Roberts, 5 Long Ley, Cheddington, Leighton Buzzard LU7 OSU
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June 2022

Dear Allotment Holder

## BONFIRES

Bonfires will now be permissible on a Tuesday or a Thursday but NOT between the hours of 0900-1700 hrs. and providing that the wind is NOT blowing towards the village.

The council recognises that allotment holders will sometimes need to burn plant material but, in order to avoid complaints, ask that you follow the guidelines issued by the National Society for Clean Air and Environmental Protection:

1. Only burn dry material
2. Never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres, or anything containing plastic, foam or paint
3. Never use old engine oil, meths or petrol to light the fire or encourage it
4. Avoid lighting a fire in unsuitable weather conditions - smoke hangs in the air on damp, still days and in the evening
5. Be considerate to your neighbours - if it is windy, smoke may be blown into neighbour's gardens and across roads
6. Avoid burning when air pollution in your area is high or very high - check the weather forecast, or the air quality website

Allotment holders are also asked to consider composting as an alternative to burning allotment waste. The Royal Horticultural Society advises:
"The potential for composting plant remains largely removes the need for garden bonfires except in special circumstances, such as destroying serious pest and disease-contaminated plant material. Bonfire smoke is potentially damaging to health, contributes to atmospheric pollution and can cause annoyance to neighbours. Plastic and rubber-based waste materials should never be disposed of on bonfires. Remember that hedgehogs and other wildlife may seek shelter in bonfire heaps."

Many thanks

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## Parish Clerk

