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## **CHEDDINGTON ALLOTMENTS STEERING GROUP (CASG) NEWSLETTER NO. 1 APRIL 2022**

### **So What's New?**

#### **The Warden**

The Parish Council are delighted to announce that we have a new Allotment Warden, Mr Mel Stevens, who will be working alongside a steering group to manage the day to day running of the allotments. Whilst living in Caythorpe, Lincolnshire, Mel was the secretary for the Caythorpe and Frieston Allotment Association and a plot holder, as well as being Parish Clerk for Caythorpe and Frieston Parish Council for the 5 years prior to moving to Cheddington a year ago.

Mel has the 1<sup>st</sup> allotment plot to the left as you enter the main gate so be sure to say hello and welcome him.

#### **CASG**

To help Mel with the day to day running of the allotments to include the maintenance of allotments rules and standards, keeping members informed, helping others and developing new ideas, the PC thought it would be a good idea to have a steering group. So, the Cheddington Allotments Steering Group (CASG) is now up and running having had its inaugural meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> April. It is hoped that there will be regular meetings so there is a flow of information between the allotmentees and the Parish Council. Already there have been a number of suggestions, so if you have any, big or small, forward them to be considered, and anyone wishing to raise an issue to be discussed at a steering group meeting please do so via any member of the steering group as detailed below.

One sensible suggestion recently has been to put your allotment number on your compost bin/bin lid (so we know who the lids belong to if we have a storm!). Also, a quick reminder to put a stake on your plot/plots indicating your plot number/s.

#### **CASG is currently made up of:-**

Ros Crematy, Chris Joyce, Rose Nightingale, Jacqui Pursey & Caroline Tutty. Contact details will follow.

Although it was agreed that the steering group numbers should be limited to a manageable number, if you are interested in becoming a member, please get in touch with Mel on [melcasg@outlook.com](mailto:melcasg@outlook.com)/07950 316954.

### **First Inspection Date!**

It was agreed that the first inspection would be actioned by the steering group on or around Monday 25th April 2022 at 1500 hrs as by this time some initial new season work should have commenced. So, get those plots tidied and adjoining pathways cut back please!

### **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

Please be advised that the road down to the Village Hall and to the Allotments from Church Lane will be closed on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> June for a children's event at the Village Hall. There will also be limited parking.

### **Allotment Plot Charges from Oct 2022-23**

#### **In Parish**

Full Plot from £31 to £34

$\frac{3}{4}$  plot from £25 to £28

$\frac{1}{2}$  plot from £20 to £24

$\frac{1}{4}$  plot from £14 to £16

#### **Out of Parish**

Full Plot from £43 to £46

$\frac{3}{4}$  plot from £36 to £39

$\frac{1}{2}$  plot from £28 to £30

$\frac{1}{4}$  plot from £18 to £19

Anyone aged 60 years or over on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 plots will, for the 2022-23 season, continue to be charged at half price.

The above increases have been implemented to slowly bring charges in line with current rates.

FYI the PC will be adding to the annual invoice the option of becoming a member of the National Allotment Association (NAS) – simply tick the box if you wish to become a member and enjoy the benefits of the seed ordering scheme and 3<sup>rd</sup> party insurance cover. Currently £3 per annum. Rose and Vaughan will still be administering the annual renewal to the National Allotment Society on behalf of those interested allotment members.

### **Things to remember**

- The Cheddington Allotments obviously welcome children and dogs on leads but please no bicycles and take extra care when children are running around plots where there may be rakes/spades etc.
- The old compost area, as previously advised, is closed and should not be used for allotment cuttings, soil or cuttings brought from home!
- There also seems to be an ever-growing dumping ground in the far-left hand corner as you enter the main gate. Can Allotmenters please not put rubbish there but take home/take to the recycling centre. Many thanks.

***Finally and most importantly enjoy the 2022-23 season!***  
**CPC/CASG**

