



Gordon cleaning his plot.

Emergency Contacts

The landlord's agent, Stephanie Keighley, can be contacted on 0789 979 8335
 Email tpic@talktalk.net

Water and Trees: Inform Stephanie of any water issues and wind damage to trees on site.

Bees Martin Moore 0772 9620286

Vandalism
 POLICE for EVERY incident: call 101
Call 999 for trouble in progress

Please give Jenny the URN number for any site crime you report.

Plot Buddys

If you have a friend or relation who works with you on your plot, it's a good idea to pass their contact details on to Stephanie. Then if anything happens to you, she will know that there is a custodian who wants to carry on gardening.

Membership

Please keep Mary up to date with your contact details, so you can be contacted if trouble strikes. We keep your details safe, use them only for allotment business and never pass them on without your permission. So just pass on the info to Mary via the Tilehurst Allotments email, our on-site post box or our facebook page.



It is Dis

September Meet Up

Plot-holders and people on the waiting list came to our annual September get together. We enjoyed hearing about gardening in Nepal and the UK, learnt what happens at the Reading Town Meal and heard the Charity's answers to questions. It was also an opportunity to pay our rent. There was time to discuss knotty issues, socialise and pick up a raffle prize as well as a bit of formal business. A really good occasion.

Here is a date for your 2017 diary; our Spring get together will be on **Thursday 11th May** in the Village Hall. The full details will be in our February newsletter. It will probably include a seed and plant swap.

Your ideas are welcome, keep in touch with hot news. Use our facebook page or tell your link committee member, whether you are looking for a handful of bean seeds or the owner of the barrow that turned up on your plot.

Plot Holders Committee 2016/2017

Chair	David Griffiths	PB10	9421141	
Secretary	Jenny Cottee	AA9	9425169	
Treasurer	Karen Fidler	PB12		
Membership Secretary	Mary Bartlett	AB7a		
Committee	William Macphee	PC3	Colin Robinson	AA20
	David Elton	PC5b	Phil Smith	AB8b
	Deborah Dadd	AA17	Carine Guenand	PC4a

Police News

PCSO Danni Du Toit recently visited our site for a look around. We talked about problems of 'visitors' on site.

If you find that 'visitors' have been socialising on site, possibly leaving evidence of smoking or drinking or using laughing gas cylinders in your shed, please tell us about it. Via link committee member, email, or Jenny. We need to know what happened and when. We will pass on information about patterns of antisocial activity like this to the neighborhood police team. It is not good for young, possibly vulnerable kids to get into bad habits.

If a crime has been committed, that is, criminal damage or evidence of illegal drug usage, then tell us and report it to the police on 101. If you discover a crime in progress call 999.

Please give as many details as you can including when it happened and any descriptions.



The police neighbourhood team are keen to make local contacts so please chat to Danni and colleagues if they come your way en-route through the site.

Xmas Lock Out

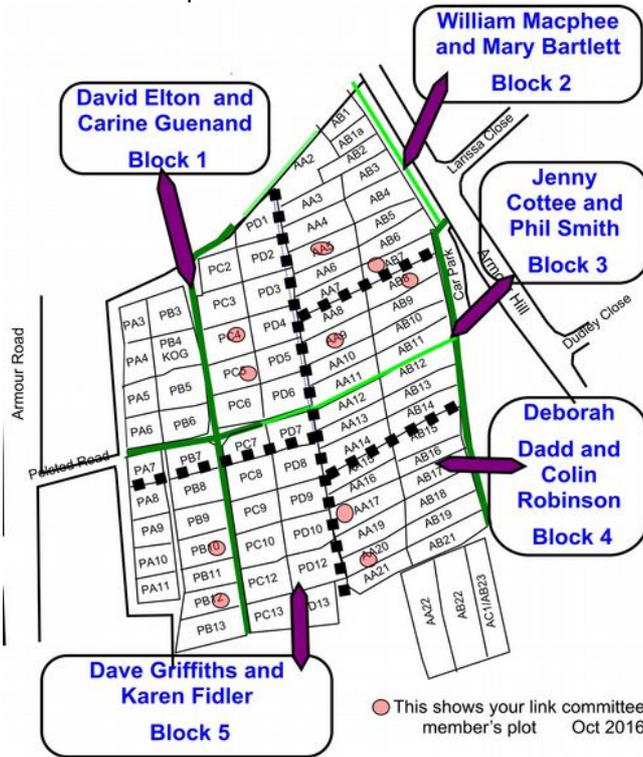
All gates (pedestrian and vehicle) will be locked from sundown on Christmas Eve until sundown on Christmas Day. The Trustees do this to ensure that the path through the site does not become a public right of way. So pick your Christmas day sprouts early.



Committee News

Our new strong committee comprises both recent plot-holders and people who have had plots for decades.

See your link members (for two-way communication) on the notice-boards where there is a bigger version of this site map.



Bench

The Trustees have agreed to a bench in the car-park. The committee are arranging to buy and install a simple brown one made of re-cycled plastic.

Water

We expect the water to be turned off on 1st December. Both water supplies will be turned off until 1st March. Please do not turn it on again, even for a short time. Note that we no longer have plotholder water contacts. In the event of a water emergency you should contact Stephanie on 0789 979 8335.

Waiting List

The waiting list is moving well, new tenants waited 12 months or less. We are very pleased that so many are making a good start. There are a handful of vacancies now or coming up soon. We hope all will be let in time for cultivation and spring sowing.

If you are on the waiting list it is essential you reply to an invitation to see plots to let. No reply means you risk being removed from the list. Make sure Stephanie, (the landlord's agent) has accurate contact details.

Jobs To Do

Cover water-butts etc on your plot
Tidy up sticks and sharp wire etc
Remove hidden hazards from paths.
Perhaps tackle a bramble or two that are encroaching on paths near you.
Make sure that your plot number is visible, neither obscured nor too faint to see easily in poor light.

Be crime aware, don't keep valuables on site, chain up tools and make them tricky to sell, by for example, painting rings on the handles.

Christmas Chips

RBC will collect Christmas trees from the car-park, see press for dates. Then they return the chippings for us to use on paths. Help yourself.

Rubbish

In 2017 there will not be an annual clear up. There is no rubbish collection from the site, and tighter domestic rubbish collection rules will make it much harder to get rid of stuff.

Your rubbish is your responsibility. Please take it home. Empty cans, old tools, garden stuff, whatever.

Looking After Your Soil

Spread well-rotted manure or compost to improve both heavy and fast-draining soil. Dig it in or let the worms do the work.

If you have transport you can collect mixed straw and horse manure from many stables and store it until it is well-rotted. You can collect weeds and leaves to make compost (eventually) and speed up your compost heap using pigeon litter which is sometimes available on site.

Richard Brann from Little John's Farm (07775 705751) is delivering well rotted manure for £45 per load, that's about 60 barrows full.

