

May's Newsletter 2024

We hope this newsletter finds you well and a warm welcome to our new plot holders. We have some news and updates to share with you.



Drain and gully clearance Working Party!

A big thank you to those that attended our second working party to help keep clear our site's drain and gully. With all the rain we've had it is essential we keep this clear to allow free running drainage which we all benefit from. We do this every 3 months as 'little and often' means it's a relatively quick job which we can all get involved in.

Our next working party is on 8th June and it will be the maintenance of our water tanks; especially the lids. Look forward to seeing as many of you as possible!

Diseased tree overhanging middle road wood chip area – update



We've had confirmation from the Council that they have resolved the issue. So we have moved the old wood chip and cleared the area. Please keep clear for the next delivery!



Padlocks!

When we leave, can we please make sure the padlock goes back on facing upright (numbers facing upwards). This makes it easy for the next plot holder to use to gain access.



Water supply – leaks and overflowing tanks

As you may have seen on our Facebook Group, we've had some water supply issues recently which resulted in it being turned off and the toilets being closed. However, a massive thanks goes to your Chairman Bill Whatley, along with help from fellow committee members Denis McCarthy and John O'Connell, as each time, he has fixed the problems the very next day.

Bottom corner road

Over the next coming weeks we will be moving the pile of tyres from the top of our site and use them to protect the bottom road corner. We will fill these with earth and in time plant them up to make them more attractive. In the meantime, please keep your speed down to protect our road surface.



Sunglasses handed in

A pair of sunglasses have been kindly handed in – if these are yours, then please collect them from our sharing shed next to our Community Shed, where they are tucked behind the door on the right.

Grass levels on and around plots

Whilst walking around the site we have noticed that not all plot holders are keeping the grass levels on their plots and the paths around them down, please note that this is part of the terms and conditions of your tenancies and weed letters will be sent out to people who are not doing this even if the rest of your plot is ok.

Beavers visit

On Thursday 23rd May we had our first successful beavers visit to the allotment. They came to see Silvi's plot and got to see all the different things that she is growing and then got to plant their own sunflower to take home. A massive thankyou to Silvi for arranging this.

It was lovely to be able to interact with the community and give them a chance to see what we all do here at the allotment. On the 10th of June we have Perry Hall reception class coming to visit us which we hope will be just as successful.

Speed Limit 3MPH!

Please make sure that you keep your speed down to 3mph around the site, at this time of year there are lots of people and children on the site and we don't want any accidents. Keeping your speed down also helps to keep the roads in better condition, we are hoping to do maintenance to the roads as soon as possible and we will be reaching out for some help when we do this so please keep an eye out for further emails and keep an eye on our Facebook page.

Parking

Please make sure you only park in the designated parking bays, if you need to unload anything you can unload what you need and then need to move your vehicle to a car parking space or off site. Please do not leave your car in the middle of the road.

Shop opening time's

Some people have mentioned that they can't always get to the allotments on a Sunday to borrow machinery or buy compost from the shop. We have decided to trial alternate Saturdays and Sundays to allow more people the chance to hire equipment and visit the shop if needed. We are in the process of drawing up a Rota for this, so look out for an email with dates and times of when the shop will be open, until the Rota is done, we will continue opening the shop on Sunday mornings between 10am and 12pm.

We've had a glimpse of better weather, so fingers crossed we get more to allow the growing to get really underway! As always, thank you for your continued support.

Bill, Lesley, John, Rob, Denis, Graham and Bob

Working Party Diary 2024

June 8th

Saturday, 10am-12noon

Water tank lid maintenance and painting

July 13th and 14th

Saturday and Sunday, 10am-12noon

Road works

August 3rd

Saturday, 10am-12noon

Water drain clearance

September 28th and 29th

Saturday and Sunday, 10am-12noon

Perimeter fence pruning

November 2nd

Saturday 10am-12noon

Water drain clearance

Events Calendar 2024

May 23rd

Thursday, 6pm-7pm

9th Orpington Scouts Visit

September 14th

Saturday, 11am-2pm

Annual General Meeting (AGM) and BBQ

October 26th

Saturday, 12noon-epm

International food and end of season natter

December 14th

Saturday, 3pm-5pm

Christmas drinks, mince pies and cake