

**Notes from Advisory Group Meeting
Weds 21st July 2021 at Allotments
Martin, Caroline, Rosie, Mark & Sarah**

Updates

1. Rats – Rosie spoke with Simon (Cambridge Pest Services). The current level of cover is not sufficient and it has been agreed that we need to move to the higher level of cover which will be 15-25 bait boxes across the whole site. Boxes on order, awaiting delivery. Rosie to chase.

Note: Boxes will be put in place on Monday 26th.

2. Vacant/Untended Plots – Plots 17, 40, and 22 to be offered out to waiting list. Awaiting responses to 1st and 2nd letters from 2 further plot holders.

Two more plots, 31 and 8, are now overgrown – 1st letter to be sent this week.

Sarah to obtain quotes for a large skip. This would be a one off, one day hire to clear rubbish from site.

3. Edge System – Caroline agreed that Sarah can contact plot holders directly from the allotmentadvisorygroup@gmail.com account.

Edge is an extremely difficult system to use for communication because of the necessity to have all letters uploaded by Edge before they can be sent out.

4. Allotment Facebook Page – very successful so far. 20 people have joined the group and are using it to chat, ask questions, swap ideas etc.

Compost Area

Mark Ward from the RSPB has been asked by BPC to carry out an environmental survey to show where specific species are in the village. Part of this survey will include information regarding how best to manage green areas, when to wood chip and other information that may be useful to this group. The PC are hoping for direction re handyman activities including grass cutting and tree management.

We have not changed our minds regarding removal of the currant compost heap, it is an eyesore and takes up half a plot of valuable growing space.

The idea of relocating it to the car park area was discussed and Caroline will suggested this to Ramune.

John Davies, a plot holder, has written to the group seeking clarity on information passed to him regarding the removal of the compost heap. Sarah to reply.

BGA Shed

Savilles, the agent for the Church Commissioners, has written to Pam Fraser, Chair of Buckden Gardeners Association regarding the relocation of their shed. It is clear from the letter that they believe the B.G.A. and Buckden Community Allotments are one in the same organisation.

They have said that the shed should be relocated to within the allotment site. This is something that we would object to as it would take up over half a plot.

Caroline will write to Savilles.

Sarah will speak to Pam Fraser to ask if she has any other ideas.

Bags for Life

We all agreed that we would like a shelter on the community area. Both Sarah and Mark will speak to carpenters to obtain quotes for a bespoke shelter.

Sarah to check files to establish timescale for spending the money and the conditions of the award.

Summer BBQ

We decided against holding a BBQ this year due to rising infection rates.

Best Kept Plot

This needs to be arranged quickly. Sarah and Rosie will meet to discuss further.

Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 24th August 10.30am on zoom. Martin to book.