



BOGNOR REGIS TOWN COUNCIL

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June 2013

Dear Tenant,

Please find enclosed details of the Allotment Sub-Committee meeting held on the 11th June 2013.

TENNANT REPRESENTATIVES

Original Site: Mr Peter Ledword and Mr Marcus Bicknell

Re-Established Site: Mrs Ronnie Johnson, Ms Sharon Trodd and Mrs Teresa Griffiths.

I would like to thank our Tenant Representatives for giving up their time to help the Town Council manage the Allotments.

COUNCILLOR TOOVEY.

Some of you will have already seen Cllr. Toovey walking round the allotments recently. He has kindly expressed an interest in getting more involved with the allotments and will be visiting on a regular basis to ensure that the plots are being regularly maintained and cultivated. He will be liaising closely with the tenant representatives so please feel free to discuss any concerns or raise any queries with him.

FOXES

The problem of foxes has escalated especially on the original site where they are causing a lot of damage to plots and produce. Following research and advice into what can be done to combat this problem a fox repellent will be sprayed around the allotment parameter a number of times to deter the foxes. This will commence within the next couple of weeks. The recommended product is considered to be environmentally friendly, non-toxic and efficient. We are also looking at more long term solutions and I will keep you informed as this progresses.

SOUTH & SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM JUDGING – 12TH JULY 2013

The theme for this years South & South East In Bloom competition is Edible Britain and the Bognor Regis In Bloom Working Party have asked if the judges can visit the allotments as part of their tour.

The Judges will be visiting the re-established site mid-morning of the 12th July and would love to meet any allotment holders. Tenants from the original site are invited to come across and display some of their produce and also meet the judges if they would like to do so.

BEST KEPT PLOT AWARD – VOTING PROCESS - ORIGINAL AND RE-ESTABLISHED AREAS

We have changed the format for the Best Plot as voted for by the tenants. You only need to vote for one plot which you consider to be the best kept or most improved. A voting form is enclosed for your use. It would be appreciated if you could all take a bit of time and show some support for the hard work your fellow tenants have put into their plots and vote. The closing date for entries will be Friday 27th September 2013 and forms can be returned to Bognor Regis Town Council at any-time between now and September 27th. You can also hand your forms in to any of the representatives who will also have extra copies.

YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARDS

It is hoped that the Young Achievers Awards will be presented this year at the Allotment Holders A.G.M. There were four winners last year so if your children or grandchildren have helped you tend your plot and you would like them to receive a certificate for their hard work on the allotments, please let us know. Please supply the name and age of your nominee, as well as the plot number and we will arrange for one to be presented to them.

Winners will be announced at the Allotment Holders AGM on the 22nd October 2013, when awards will be presented along with Best Kept Plot as voted for by Tenants, Best Kept Plot as voted for by Councillors & The Roy Gristwood Shield for Best Use of Allotment. Please put this date in your diary, an Agenda will be sent out nearer the time.

HEALTH & SAFETY RISK ASSESSMENTS

As most of you are aware Health and Safety inspections take place twice a year. This is a legal requirement the Town Council has to undertake. On these inspections we are looking for things that may be dangerous to you, others on the site and even trespassers.

There are many things that can be considered a Health and Safety risk, especially on an Allotment and the list is exhaustive. The following are examples of things we are looking for on the inspections:

- Broken glass
- Paths clear of obstructions
- Edges of plots should be clearly defined and edges trimmed
- Tools that are left unattended on plots or not put away in sheds.
- Damaged or broken property
- Items overhanging the edges of plots
- Concealed ponds

Can Tenants also be reminded to **keep footpaths and the edges of plots trimmed**. All paths including those against the hedges and fences are to be kept clear of obstructions. All plots should have a path running on all sides, as access is required for maintenance.

RUBBISH

Unfortunately over the recent weeks, there have been several incidents of fly tipping by the gates. There have also been several bags of green waste too. We believe this is coming from the allotment site. Please note it is your responsibility to remove your greenwaste from the site. It is illegal to fly tip and you are asked to please report any incidents to the police and the office.

UNCULTIVATED PLOTS

There have recently been a number of plots that have been badly maintained necessitating the need for letters to be sent or a Notice To Quit enforced. If at any time you are having difficulties please let us know as soon as possible. Unfortunately weeds do not make allowances for personal circumstances and continue to grow and seed. If you let us know we may be able to offer some assistance.

Thank you for your support in these matters and please do not hesitate to contact either myself, Cllr Toovey or any of the representatives if you have any concerns.

Yours faithfully,

Sheila Green
Allotment Committee Clerk