

Issue 18

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CHICHESTER CITY COUNCIL

# Allotment Newsletter

## A Message from Peter Roberts, Property Manager

I hope we find you healthy and eager to embark on another year of allotment gardening. Over the winter period we've been very busy carrying out maintenance on the allotment sites, including clearing and bringing back into use a number of historically overgrown plots.

All sites, with the exception of St James Road, are now fully tenanted. We're continuing with our work of clearing and preparing vacant plots at St James for re-letting or communal use, with the aim of all sites being well cultivated and maintained.

We very much appreciate your efforts to cultivate your plot and your contribution to the overall appearance of your site. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable and productive growing season.



### Chichester City Council

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### Tuesday 26th March, water will be turned on..

Please remember that sprinklers and unattended hoses are NOT permitted. We encourage water conservation through the collection of rain water.



### Fly Tipping

It is NOT acceptable to dump waste of any kind on communal areas, other plots or unused ground. Not only is this anti-social, it costs the City Council a significant amount of money and is directly against the City Council's rules and the spirit of the allotment movement.

Therefore, anyone found fly tipping will be IMMEDIATELY evicted from their plot and any costs of clearing up recovered from the offending person.



### Florence Road Site

For administration purposes the plots on the large part of the site will now be known as Blackberry Lane allotments. The small site immediately on Florence Road will retain the name Florence Road allotments.



### Plot Inspections

The next formal plot inspections will be carried out week commencing 13th May 2019.

## Available Plots

In cooperation with St James Allotment Association, the City Council has removed several tons of rubbish and scraped the weeds off a number of vacant plots to bring them back into service. We are keen to get these plots occupied as soon as possible so if you know of any neighbours or other residents in Chichester who would like an allotment, please spread the word. The application form is available on our website.



[www.chichestercity.gov.uk/services/allotments](http://www.chichestercity.gov.uk/services/allotments)

## Discouraging Rats



- This is everybody's responsibility
- Turn the contents of your compost bin regularly
- Compost bins should have a wire mesh lining or placed on a paving slab
- Regularly kick your compost bin so its not a peaceful place to sleep
- No household waste is to be put on a compost bin, i.e. cooked foods, meat, bones etc
- Harvest ripe fruit and vegetables promptly
- Do not discard fruit and vegetables on the ground, clear them to the compost
- Keep your plot tidy so there is no cover to live in
- Regularly check sheds and greenhouses
- Store seeds, bulbs etc in rodent proof containers

Rats urinate wherever they go therefore, hands and food should be washed thoroughly as rats carry a risk of Weil's disease, Salmonella and Leptospirosis.

## Coppicing at Florence Road site

Steve Hawkins and Geoff King January 2019.



This was the annual selection for coppicing of 5/6 year old hazel rods from the 25 Hazels which were planted on allotments that had been taken out of commission.

Hazel posts, polls and toppings will be used by the allotment holders for their bean and pea plants as well as decorative fencing and arbours this year.



### DID YOU KNOW!

Lacanophobia is the fear of vegetables!  
Let's hope none of our allotment holders suffer with this.

## Revised Rules and Regulations

All tenants will receive a revised copy of the tenancy Rules and Regulations with their invoice. Please read carefully. They are intended to ensure the smooth running of the allotments and to make plot holders aware of the City Council's requirements during their tenancy.



## Site Stewards

A volunteer allotment site steward is still needed at the Whyke Road and Blackberry Lane site.

Volunteer site stewards liaise between tenants and the City Council, and are a useful link to improve communication

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer then please make contact with the Property Manager.