

BROOK ROAD ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2020

As the nights draw in on a year that has been very testing for everyone, at least we have had the escape and enjoyment of an allotment to see us through. Unfortunately because we have been unable to hold committee meetings a number of matters have arisen. We have now been able to organise a way to agree on some matters, of which, I am now able to impart to members. There a number of instructions and reminders which I hope you will take the time to read.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Because of the coronavirus we will not be able to hold our AGM in January. It has been decided that until we are able to convene this meeting, the Officers and Committee Members should remain as they are. We will, of course, convene a meeting as early as it is viable.

SITE MATTERS

I have to bring to your notice, matters that need to be considered to enable the site to remain in good condition: -

1. Your plot must be kept tidy by the elimination of any flowering weeds and grass and it would be preferable if you could make a start on preparations for next season. Untidy plots could be considered for non-renewal at the end of the year.
2. Those with trees on their plots should ensure they are pruned to the stated rule of not exceeding 8 feet.
3. It would be helpful if those members that have plots facing the road around the perimeter of the site could keep an eye on the foliage and weeds up against the fence and give it a quick tidy as and when they have time.
4. It would also be useful if those members with plots abutting the perimeter hedge could keep it trimmed back.

Thank you in advance for your help in these matters.

COMPOST AREA

This area set aside for the use of contracted companies to leave grass cuttings and leaves and must not at any time be used by the members to dump rubbish. Anyone caught using it could face dismissal from the site.

TOILETS

To enable us to keep the toilets open during the pandemic we should be grateful if after use, you could please spray the items you have touched before you leave the toilet block, including the toilet bowl, seat and handle, and the sink and anywhere else you have touched. A spray will be provided for use, hopefully starting next week. We regret having to ask you to comply with this but there is no other way of ensuring that the toilets are kept sanitised. Failure to do so could result in the toilets having to be closed.

SITE SHOP

We are hoping to re-open the site shop very soon for sales using bank cards (cash will not be accepted). The shop will be open on Tuesdays and Saturdays only, from 9am to 11am. Keep an eye out for the flag flying above the shop which tells you the shop is open.

FACEBOOK

It is regrettable that I have to bring this subject up again. It is sad that a minority of members have been using our Facebook page for their grievances and complaints to gather support. You should note the rules situated under the announcement page which tells you how this page should be used. We would be grateful if you could respect these rules as any future breaking of them will result in your removal from the Facebook Group with no reinstatement. Please use the Group Page for the way it was intended like information, help and displays of produce etc. Grievances and complaints should be sent to the Secretary or Chairman.

YEARLY RENTS AND RENEWALS

The time for renewal and payment of rents for next year will shortly be upon us. Because of government guidelines we are unable to open the office for collection of rent and signing renewal agreements. etc We will shortly be sending out demands for rent for 2021 setting out details of the amount to be paid and how to pay by bank transfer. For those plot holders unable to pay by bank transfer there will be the option to pay by cheque or postal to the Treasurer. Full details will be set out in the Membership Secretary's notification. You have until 31st December 2020 to make payment otherwise it will be assumed you no longer want the plot. As we are unable to open the office for payment of rents and renewal agreements, we would be grateful if anyone who has changed address, email or telephone number during the year and has not notified the Secretary should do so immediately so we have up to date records for contact purposes.

WATER SUPPLY

Finally, please note that the water supply is now on winter time coming on at 8am and turning off at 4pm

Thank you for reading the above and if I don't see you before may I and the committee, take this opportunity of wishing you all a very festive Christmas and a far better New Year.

Dave Mead

Chairman