

SPRING NEWSLETTER

February 2021

As I write this there is snow on the ground and the top temperature is 0 degrees. But spring is just a few weeks away and we will be able to start gardening and preparing our plots ready for planting. One of the few things to smile about.

On 11 February the committee had a Zoom meeting. A new experience for some of us. We started to plan for the year ahead.

Ken Chennells has been co-opted on to the committee. We do need more committee members, so if you can contribute please let us know.

Membership and plot rents, the reminders and instructions for these will be going out in the next couple of weeks with instructions on how to make payments. All renewals should be completed by the 25th of March to retain your tenancy.

The allotment gate will remain permanently open for the foreseeable future. When things get better we will keep it closed again. We are planning a 'No Entry' sign to deter those taking a stroll, and are looking at better arrangements for the future.

Security. Last year we had a couple of major break-ins during the summer weather. We are scratching our heads as to how to prevent a recurrence. We plan to hold an event to post code mark expensive equipment in early May.

The potato competition will go ahead again this year

Covid permitting, the Flower Show will be held again on the first Saturday in September.

AGM: We did not have one last year, as we kept hoping things would improve Covid-wise in a few months. This year we are going to hold an AGM via Zoom on 12 April at 7pm. Don't worry, Zoom is so easy even I managed to master it and you will be sent full instructions. A set of papers outlining the AGM business will be issued as usual.

Gypsy Lane. We are going to speak to the Football Club about doing some major roadworks. The Club did a lot of work filling in the holes with road planings which hasn't worked, so we have got to make bigger plans.

The main drive is also has a lot of holes. There are some road planings by the gate, so feel free to use them to fill in holes. As the ground is so muddy this might well work.

The Shop will open for the first time on Sun 28 February at 10.30, weather permitting. If it is cold and wet as it is now then we will delay opening until the following week or until the weather improves. We need help unloading stuff into the shop. The supplier usually comes on a Thursday at 1 pm. If you are able bodied and can help with this we will be very grateful. Please send a mail giving your contact details so that we can get in touch when we need help. There are no more than 5 deliveries in a season.

Trees: A reminder that trees on plots should be limited to a maximum of 8ft and as we approach Spring now is the ideal time to carry out pruning activity on our fruit trees. If your trees are overdue, please do take the opportunity to carry out this essential maintenance, it not only helps your trees to remain healthy and disease free, it helps with maintaining a good the fruit yield.

Manure is still covered to keep it dry. The covers will be removed when the weather improves. The price is still £1 per barrow. Wood chippings may be available later on at the same price.

