



Meeting	Recreation & Leisure
Date	Wednesday 18 th September
Report Title	24. 039 allotments
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Jo Lewis will be attending a virtual course on Allotment Management: Site Facilities and Health and Safety on 25 September and hopes some of the issues we face with our allotments will be addressed.

Allotment inspections were held on Monday 2 September.

Westend:

- 3 x emails sent out regarding non-cultivation. One allotment due to be given up.
- Tree issues. The work to cut down the row of sycamore trees to approximately six feet was completed on Thursday 5 September.

Woodfield:

- 7 x emails sent out regarding non-cultivation. Two allotments due to be given up.

Upthorpe:

- 3 x emails sent out regarding non-cultivation.

Ashmead 1:

- 2 x emails sent out regarding non-cultivation.

Vacant plot. The vacant plot at Ashmead 1 allotments was offered to existing allotment holders on the understanding that it could only be rented for one growing year at a time. At the end of this time the second plot would have to be given back if someone had joined the waiting list wanting the plot. This was not popular with our existing allotment holders. They felt too much time and energy would have gone into the second allotment for it to potentially be handed back. No-one wanted to take on the vacant plot on this basis. I hope to raise the subject of second plots on the allotment course later this month.

Ashmead 2:

- 4 x emails sent out regarding non-cultivation.

Allotment tenancies: These are due to be sent out next month. Currently our allotments cost £28.00 for a full plot per year and £15.00 for a half plot per year. Our plot sizes vary massively. **Could these costs be increased to £30.00 for a full plot per year and £20.00 for a half plot?** This increase would help towards the cost of covering uncultivated allotments and taking them out of circulation while the weeds die down.

Charging deposits has been discussed, but with only three people on our allotment waiting list (all wanting a plot at Upthorpe), one vacant plot, three plots due to be returned and probably more when the allotment tenancies go out I worry this could lead to even more vacant allotments. The Allotment Society has been approached for advice.