

Allotment Report
17 September 2025, Jo Lewis

Inspections:

Cllr Miranda Clifton and Jo Lewis are due to hold allotment inspections on Monday 22 September 2025.

Skip hire:

Several weeks ago, one of the householders living behind Woodfield allotments on the Woodfield Road side, complained about rubbish being left piled against the boundary fence and weeds growing among the rubbish and into their gardens. I contacted all allotment holders with plots bordering the fence asking them to remove any rubbish and clear weeds. Two of them replied to me to say the rubbish predated them taking on their plots and they didn't feel it was fair to be expected to remove it. I do agree that much of the rubbish is historic and may even be added to by other allotment holders. Dave Howse has taken a look but feels there is too much rubbish for him to remove.

A 6-foot skip would cost £350.00 including VAT from Shane Longstreth. This would be hired for a two-hour period and the affected allotment holders, helped by Dave Howse, could fill it up for one hour. Other allotment holders would be given the next hour to deposit their allotment rubbish, if there is still room in the skip. A member of the Cam PC team would be on-site throughout to ensure the skip isn't abused. *Can this be ordered?*

Availability from October:

Woodfield: 1 x full plot and 2 x half plots

Ashmead 1: 2 x full plots

Ashmead 2: 2 x full plots

Westend: 0

Upthorpe: 0

Waiting list: one person interested in taking over a Woodfield plot.

Wildlife pond at Woodfield allotments:

In line with R&L's decision last meeting not to allow wildlife ponds, the allotment holder who had already installed a pond at Woodfield Allotments has agreed to remove it. However, she was very unhappy with the ruling and has decided to hand back her two allotments and has taken on a plot at Leaf & Ground instead. They do allow wildlife ponds. She's asked that her comments about the decision are passed onto R&L, as below:

It was a tough decision but unfortunately I can't get on board with the hypocrisy of the committee who deem my pond to be unsafe yet do very little to ensure the safety and security of the sites themselves. I have managed to secure an alternative space at Leaf and Ground who are more environmentally minded and take better care of the site and plot holders.

I did reply very positively to her email and wished her well with her new allotment.

Allotment Tenancy Agreement:

This has been amended to include the ruling not to allow wildlife ponds. Amended copy attached with the ruling covered under Point 14. Apart from this, the Allotment Tenancy Agreement remains the same. Invoicing for the next 12-month allotment rental is due to happen at the beginning of October and the new Allotment Tenancy Agreement will be sent out then.