

Great Waltham Parish Council

ALLOTMENTS – SUMMARY OF PLOT HOLDERS’ AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNCIL

This is summary only of how the Council operates its allotment sites and the permitted/excluded uses contained in plot holders’ allotment agreement. It does not contain full details of the hiring – these can be found in the agreement wording.

Qualification

- You must reside in the parish of Great Waltham.

Your Hiring Fee

- Compromises the rent of your plot (based on its size) and a service charge (the same fixed amount each year for every plot holder) and is payable in advance every September.
- New plot holders are required to pay a £50 deposit.
- Changes in rent are notified at least 6 months in advance.

Termination

- An allotment agreement may be terminated by you giving the Council:
 - 6 months’ notice;
 - 1 month’s notice because of ill-health or you move away from the parish.
- The Council may terminate your agreement by giving you:
 - 12 months’ notice;
 - 40 days’ notice if the hiring fee is not paid;
 - 3 months’ notice if obliged to by law to do so.
 - 28 days’ notice for a breach the Conditions of Hiring.
 - 28 days’ notice if it cannot continue to make available allotment sites for rent.
- An agreement terminates upon death of the plot holder.
- Upon termination you must remove any structures from your plot and leave it in a condition suitable for immediate re-letting.

Cultivation

- Plots can be used to produce vegetables and fruit for consumption by you and your family, but not for business purposes in any way.
- Your plot must be kept in a good state of cultivation.
- Non-native, invasive plants must not be introduced.

Chemicals

- The Council has a preference for organic cultivation.
- If sprays, fertilisers or other chemicals are used, please read Section 5 of your agreement beforehand to ensure their application and storage on site is permitted.

Keeping Your Plot Tidy

- You must keep all pathways adjacent to your plot clean, well-trimmed and properly edged.
- Sections 6 and 7 of the Agreement detail the Council’s expectations in relation to trees, shrubs, bushes, fences, gates, plot markers and paths on or adjacent to your plot.

Buildings

- The Council’s written consent must be obtained to erect a building or other structure on a plot.

Tools

- You are responsible for the security and safe use of tools and other personal equipment you bring onto your plot.
- Other allotment holders’ property and possessions must be respected.
- No weapons of any sort are permitted on the Council’s allotment sites.

Water

- You may use the water supply made available by the Council at its allotment sites.
- Washing vehicles on or use water from an allotment site for this purpose is not permitted.

Refuse/Waste Disposal

- The Council encourages environmentally friendly methods for disposal of waste. You are expected to compost, reuse or remove all matter produced on your plot.

Bonfires

- You must avoid burning if at all possible.
- In any event, bonfires are not permitted between 1st April and 30th September inclusive.
- If having a bonfire between 1st October and 31st March inclusive is unavoidable you must ensure it takes place in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of your allotment agreement.

Visitors

- You are responsible for the safety of people who visit your plot.
- You and your visitors are not permitted access to others’ plots.

Nuisance

- You must not cause, or allow to be caused, any nuisance or annoyance to other plot holders or adjacent residents. This includes loss or damage to others’ property, crops, paths, fences, gates etc.
- You should report to the Council any issues which affect the enjoyment your plot or site, whether your responsibility or not.

Animals

- You must secure the Council’s consent to bring any animal (apart from Assistance Dogs) onto an allotment site.

Sub-letting

- You are not permitted to sub-let your plots.

Advertisements

- You must not display personal or commercial advertisements or notices at the Council’s allotment site without its consent.

Harassment and Discrimination

- You are expected to comply with the Council’s policies on harassment and discrimination (to be found on its website).
- The Council will investigate thoroughly any complaints it receives of unacceptable behaviours of harassment or discrimination.