

Summery from Allotment Advisory Group (AAG) meeting held on 22nd June 2026 at Hartlebury Parish Hall 7pm.

Attended: Cllrs: Clare Atkinson (CA), Louise Tarleton-Hodgson (LTH), Chris Neale (CN), John Cosham (JC), Jonathan Griffiths (JPG). Also present: HPC Chair Ray Kirby

Hartlebury Allotment Group (HAG) members: Simon Emeny (SE), Jo Goodchild (JLG), Matt Goodchild (MG), Sally Berlyn (SB), and new tenant Carol (plot44)

Apologies: Sue Elliot and Louise Holloway

A welcome was extended to the Hartlebury Allotment Group members.

JC outlined the purpose of the meeting as an opportunity for all interested parties to understand what are the maintenance priorities on the allotments and the field and where monies can be best spent. Also a chance for all members to voice their opinion on other related allotment matters.

After lengthy discussion it was decided that the track leading from plot 1 to plot 22 on the southern boundary was nearly impassable on foot with a substantial amount of rubbish including plastic sheeting, bollards, corrugated iron sheet, sheds and various dumped wooden products, brambles and nettles. A plan of action to initially clear this area including methods of disposing of the various rubbish to be bought to the council along with costs. JC to obtain ideas and costs from contractors.

The improvement of the other tracks around the allotments that have not been upgraded i.e.: plots that back onto the houses on Old Worcester Road, will be evaluated at a latter stage as to their cost effectiveness to upgrade.

JLG brought forward a request to change the Tenancy Agreement to allow the sale of excess/surplus produce either on an ad hoc basis or at a planned sale. This met with general approval although there were some objections as to the difficulty of policing such arrangements. All receipts would be channelled back via HAG for the benefit of all the allotment plot holders. This is a method that the gardening club successfully use to bolster their income. MG and JPG are to look at methods so that these sales can be achieved transparently and honestly.

The AAG gave notice that they will be carrying out inspections of allotment plots to ensure that cultivation is occurring in agreement with the Tenancy Agreement. The next inspection will happen in July and advance notice will be given.

CA requested that a discussion regarding dangerous trees and rotavator be allowed. JC as chair person of this meeting did not allow further discussion stating that these matters had already been discussed in previous AAG meetings and in full council meeting.

The AAG/HAG will look at holding an annual clear up day so that surplus rubbish can be disposed of with possibly the hiring of a skip and a communal bonfire.

The request was brought up by JLG for a memorial to the plot holder who died in May. Photos of a memorial bench HPC had purchased were produced by CN for consideration. It was agreed that we approach the family of the deceased to seek their opinion and obtain permission. Hopefully JLG and CN can lead on this.

Costs will also be obtained from contractors as to the making good of a plot once a tenant leaves it, prior to a new tenant taking over. Any input from interested parties will be welcome. JC to approach the parish maintenance man Simon Fox for his input.

After last year's very dry weather with water butts and IBC tanks running dry it was felt that the opportunity for a borehole, now we have permission from Fisher German, be addressed. Agreed by all and SE to set up a sub working group to look at feasibility and costs including grants etc and report back to the AAG

Date of next meeting TBC