



Chilton Allotment News



Edition 2– April 2023

Firstly, thank you to everyone who has completed their tenancy agreements, data collection forms and paid for their allotments for 2023/2024. The data collection is invaluable and it keeps us up to date with livestock and chemicals.

We have 3 areas across Chilton:

West Chilton Terrace—split across 2 sites on either side of the by-pass

Hambleton Way—these allotments are on either side of 'Joe's Field'.

Prospect Terrace—as the name suggests these are adjacent to Prospect Terrace

From these forms we have pulled together email addresses and will be sending these newsletters via email to those that have provided one. If there are just a few who do not have email addresses, we will send these via post or make them available at the allotment sites.

Allotment Meetings for 2023:

Meetings are held on 3rd Monday of each month at 10.30am in the Town Council offices. Everyone is welcome. There will be a tenants meeting before each Committee Meeting at 9.30am for tenants to discuss any issues they wish to raise – 1 representative will then be allowed to raise these within the meeting. Please note there is a limit of 20 minutes for public participation in meetings and it is to raise issues / comment on items on the agenda and not for debates to take place. Members will then take the issues / comments into consideration when discussing that item on the agenda.

- 15th May 2023
- 19th June 2023
- 17th July 2023
- 18th September 2023
- 16th October 2023
- 20th November 2023
- 18th December 2023

9.30am for tenants meeting, 10.30am for Allotment Committee meeting



Cultivating Your Plot

If you've already started planting your crops for this year, or you're still at the planning stage, please remember that a minimum of 75% of the plot area must be cultivated for growing produce - namely vegetables, herbs, fruit, other edible crops and flowers.

Any livestock (preferably hens and/or rabbits) should only occupy 25% of any plot. Please look out for information for NEW allotment holders on requirements for keeping hens or rabbits.





We are really excited that we have been allocated 2 community allotments on the West Chilton Terrace site that are going to be used initially by our Men's Group, they will work alongside Groundwork who will come and deliver training in growing, gardening, green exercise, etc. As we develop our community groups, we hope to be able to make this available to more people in future.

We will advertise this via our social media and in the Chapter, so follow us or look out for our articles.

Upcoming work.....!

- We are hoping to start work replacing the perimeter fencing on Hambleton Way 2 site in the next couple of months.
- Funding application being submitted to improve and provide fencing/improve security on West Chilton Terrace 2 site
- General remedial work on perimeter fencing
- Looking at recycling scheme



MYHarvest (Measure Your Harvest) is your opportunity to participate in an exciting research project that will estimate the contribution people who grow their own fruit and vegetable crops are making to UK national food production.

At present, there is a recognition that own-growing in the UK makes a really important contribution to food security, healthy diets and general well-being, but we currently have a poor understanding of how much own-grown food people are able to produce.

This will be key to providing the vital evidence base to support the use of land for growing spaces within our cities and towns, at a time when people are becoming increasingly interested in growing their own fruit and vegetables.

THE OPPORTUNITY

The research team at the University of Sheffield are working with members of the public growing food in allotments, gardens and other own-growing spaces across the UK to understand the yield of typical UK staple fruit and vegetable crops.

By providing the team with the area of land you use to grow a crop and the weight of the crop you harvest you would be:

1. Contributing to a first national estimate of own-grown food production in the 21st century.
2. Helping us to understand how much allotment and garden space we need in the future to ensure sufficient access for the growing number of people living in our cities and towns.

It is really easy to take part in MYHarvest. For details on how to participate click the button below for the guidelines.

[GUIDELINES_V6.pdf \(wpengine.com\)](#)

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IN OUR NEWSLETTER?



If you have an article you think would be interesting for other allotment holders send it in to us. Have you had a successful crop, tried something different that has worked, growing tips, and more. The list is endless.

Eventually we would like to hold competitions for allotment holders.

Do you have any recipes using what you grow. Send the recipe to us, take a photograph of the finished meal.

We are excited to start this project but would be even more excited for allotment holders to be involved.

Contact Anne at info@chiltondurham-tc.gov.uk