Allotment Society

Report for the Parish Council

May 2021

During the Covid-19 Lockdown periods, membership of the Allotment Society has boomed. We now have more plots under cultivation than ever before and the only free plots are those in the “wilderness area”. Most of the new members are taking allotment gardening seriously and the site is looking very good with tidy, cultivated plots and well mown paths. The Allotment Site has been the one place where you could still enjoy a sense of freedom.

The weather has not been very kind and the site has been wet since October 2020 and the strong winds have spread debris all over the site. This has made us more aware that there is a considerable amount of abandoned rubbish in various parts of the site and we will have to make a more determined effort to clear it up. We have abandoned plastic bags, broken plastic tubs, rusting wire netting and many other things which have accumulated over the years and we need to gather all these and arrange for their disposal.

Last year, we were not bothered so much by rabbits as myxomatosis affected a considerable number, but this year they are on the increase once again and plot holders have had to strengthen their defences. This is when more wire netting is used and will eventually add to the increasing problem of the accumulating rubbish. We do not seem to have a satisfactory method of dealing with this problem at the moment.

I think most plot holders have a view that we have a great responsibility towards the wildlife at the site, whilst at the same time we have to protect out crops from pests. I suppose that one person’s pest is another’s idea of wildlife.

In summary, the allotment plots are in the best condition they have been for years but the overall site does need a general tidy up.

*Frank Ashurst*

*Chair*