

SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

Report

Subject : Allotments – Information Paper
Committee : Environmental Services & Climate Committee
Date : 12 Dec 2022
Author : Marc Read, Environmental Services Manager

1. Introduction:

1.1. This report provides information on the Council's Allotment sites, as requested at the previous Environmental Services & Climate Committee on 10 Oct 2022.

2. Background

- 2.1. Allotment plots in Salisbury are extremely popular and have become even more so in the last two years. Allotments produce healthy fruit and vegetables at a low cost, are good for the environment and are a great way of keeping fit. They have also proven to be a good way of meeting people, a great family activity and a place to unwind.
- 2.2. Chickens are permitted on allotments providing the tenant has maintained the plot for 6 months. There is a limit of 6 birds for each plot.
- 2.3. The Allotments and Gardens Association in Salisbury run a trading hut from the Fisherton Farm Allotment site. Memberships can be purchased for an annual fee of £5.00 The Association is in regular contact with the Council and membership applications are available from our website.

3. Plots:

- 3.1. The Council has 754 plots across the city, with further plots coming at St Peter's Place.
- 3.2. The number of plots on each site, alongside the current waiting list is provided in the table below:

Allotment Site	Plots	Waiting List
The Butts	81	36
Coldharbour Lane	45	26
Cow Lane	57	47
Fisherton A, B, C and D	274	63
London Road	90	45
Stratford Road	51	18
The Tunnel	69	34
Warres Acre	48	44
Wiltshire Road	18	14
Westwood	21	0

- 3.3. Regular inspections of plots are carried out every six weeks. If plots are not being maintained, tenants are asked for an explanation. If no further work is done on the plot or the tenant has not paid for it (after reminders), a Notice to Quit is issued requesting the tenant to vacate the plot by a given date. The plot is then offered to the next person on the waiting list.
- 3.4. Twenty-one Notices to Quit have been sent to tenants from 1/2/22 to 20/10/22.
- 3.5. Inspections are also carried out on tracks, fencing, gates, locks and water troughs which are repaired as and when necessary. The tracks on the sites are strimmed by the Council's Grounds Team.
- 3.6. There are Wardens on each site who give advice to tenants and report any issues arising. For their work on the sites, they are given their plot free of charge.

4. Income:

- 4.1. The size of an allotments is quoted in rods, an historic unit of measurement. A typical plot on a Salisbury City Council plot will be either 5 or 10 rods. A 5 rod plot is approximately equal to 126.5 square meters.
- 4.2. For 2022, the cost of a plot is £9.20 per rod, per annum. For a 5 rod plot, this is £46.00 per year, with a 10 rod plot costing £92.00 per annum.
- 4.3. In total, the Council's allotment sites provided an income of approximately £41,000 in 2022.

5. Recommendation:

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 5.1. Note the report.

6. Implications:

- 6.1. **Financial:** None in relation to this report.
- 6.2. **Legal:** None in relation to this report.
- 6.3. **Personnel:** None in relation to this report.
- 6.4. **Environmental Impact:** None in relation to this report.
- 6.5. **Equality Impact Statement:** None in relation to this report