

Great Haseley Parish Council

Rules and Conditions for Allotment Gardens

Applying for an allotment garden tenancy

Who can apply?

Anyone who is a permanent resident of the parish of Great Haseley or has a close link with the parish. However, preference will be given to residents of the parish in the allocation of allotment gardens.

Who you need to contact?

Contact either the parish council allotment representative: Jake Brown jakebrown.ghpc@gmail.com , or the parish clerk: Andrea Oughton, email: clerk@thehaseleys.co.uk / Tel: 01844 875635.

The duration of the tenancy

An allotment garden tenancy agreement is for one year and is renewable annually. The tenancy begins on 25th March and ends on 24th March of the following year. You will need to sign a Great Haseley Parish Council “Tenancy Agreement for Allotment Gardens” before you can take on an allotment.

Ending the tenancy

The tenancy agreement ends on 24th March, or with the death of the tenant.

You may end your tenancy at any time by informing the parish council allotment representative in writing that you wish to do so. This will formally end your tenancy agreement. Great Haseley Parish Council is unable to refund rent for any part of the year remaining when you give up your tenancy.

Great Haseley Parish Council is entitled to end your tenancy:

- By giving you a minimum of twelve months written notice to expire on or before 6th April or on or after 29th September in any year.
- By giving you one month written notice of termination if the allotment rent is forty days or more in arrears after it is due.
- By giving you one month written notice of termination if you breach the terms and conditions of the tenancy which include keeping the allotment garden clean, tidy and weed free.

Paying the rent and renewing the tenancy

The rent is to be paid annually in advance, and no later than the start of the rental year, which is 25th March. The rent can be paid in cash, cheque payable to “Great Haseley Parish Council” or BACS payment (contact the Parish Clerk for details of bank account). The annual rental for a whole allotment is £25-00 and £15-00 for half an allotment. The rent, together with a completed and signed tenancy agreement for the coming year, should be returned to the allotment representative or the parish clerk on or before 24th March.

Waiting list

If every allotment garden is tenanted a waiting list will be kept. When a garden becomes vacant preference will be given to residents of the parish over non-residents.

Plot sharing

The Tenant must not share any part of their allotment garden with other gardeners without the written permission of Great Haseley Parish Council. If written permission is given, the garden will continue to be held in the name of the Tenant who will be responsible for meeting the terms and conditions of the tenancy, and for the payment of the rent.

If the tenant gives up the garden it cannot be transferred. A separate tenancy agreement will need to be made. If there is a waiting list, the name of the applicant, if they wish, will be added to the list.

Cultivating your allotment garden

You must:

- Cultivate your allotment garden to grow vegetables, fruit and flowers for personal consumption only, and not for business purposes.
- Keep your allotment garden clean and tidy and weed free.
- Maintain your allotment garden boundary but keep within your boundary as per your copy of the allotment plan (boundaries are marked in blue), and mow the minor paths which run the length and breadth of the allotment.

Guidelines – Other important information

Bonfires

Please be aware that there are thatched properties adjacent to the allotments, and ensure that the prevailing wind is blowing away from these properties before lighting a bonfire.

Other points to consider:

- The Environmental Protection Act 1990 makes it an offence to emit smoke, fumes or gases that are a nuisance to others.
- The Highways (Amendment Act) 1986 makes it an offence to allow smoke to drift over nearby highways if it endangers traffic.
- Please remember that bonfire smoke can be detrimental to the health of children and vulnerable adults.

You must not:

- Use petrol or a similar accelerant to light a bonfire.
- Burn damp materials or household rubbish.
- Leave a bonfire unattended.
- Create / maintain a pond.

Soil

Soil must not be removed from the allotment.

Composting and disposal of allotment garden waste

Please compost as much of your green waste as possible. You will need to make your own arrangements for disposing of non- compostable waste.

Sheds and other permanent structures

These can only be erected with the written permission of Great Haseley Parish Council. Small PVC poly- tunnels may be used but not propagators with glass panes.

Trees

Trees can only be cut down with the written permission of Great Haseley Parish Council. Please seek advice from the allotment representative if a tree is dead or dying, or needs to be pruned.

Livestock

No livestock, except for bees (see below), can be kept on an allotment garden plot.

Bees can be kept on an allotment garden provided the area is kept light and airy, fenced to ensure bees fly upwards so as not to disturb people. Hives are to be kept in one place; a limit is set on the number of hives. Hives are to be inspected once a week between April and July. The bee keeper must be qualified, have public liability insurance and a nominated representative in the village who

can be called upon in an emergency related to the bees. Written permission must be given by the Parish Council before bees can be kept on an allotment plot.

Spraying

Please keep the spraying of pesticides and herbicides to a minimum, and where possible use sprays approved by “The Soil Association”.

Water

There is a mains water supply to the allotment gardens. The water supply is turned off during the winter months. (Normally between October and April). Please ensure the tap is turned off after use.

The Parish Council encourages allotment holders to be economical with water and to harvest rainwater for use on the allotments wherever possible. The Parish Council reserves the right to levy a water charge in the future should this be deemed necessary.

Dog fouling

If your dog fouls an allotment garden please make sure that you clean up afterwards.

March 2024
