

Allotments Annual Report.

- **New Tenancy;** April 2016 started with all allotments occupied on both sites and no waiting list. During the year there was one application for an allotment from a new resident to the village. Notice was given in October for plot no. 2 Gedding Road and the new tenants have now officially taken on the plot.
- **Available Plots;** Advance notice has been given that two plots will become available in April 2018. With negotiation one could become available sooner if required. Anyone interested should place their names on the waiting list by contacting the parish clerk.
- **Trees;** Due to lack of general tree maintenance for a number of years urgent tree work was required. An Oak tree on the Rattlesden Road site had become very dangerous and required urgent work to remove dead limbs. The Trustees considered it cost affective to have a multi stemmed Horse Chestnut at Gedding Road re-coppiced at the same time. The Horse Chestnut had been the cause of complaints by several tenants over a long period of time. This action did result in complaints by some residents in Chapel Lane but the trustees stood by their actions and can report that the removal of all the high growth has improved the allotments considerably.
- **Rents;** On 15th November the trustees met to consider the allotment rents that were very low. A proposal was put to the Parish Council on 5th December 2016. This was to raise the rents over a two year period. There was one objection and four emails of support by tenants. Two tenants were present at the meeting who were both in favour of the proposal there were no objectors present. The council voted 6 votes to 1 in favour of the proposal.
- **Water;** Several tenants have complained of the difficulty of watering with watering cans filled from the water tanks. It was agree that for 2017 hand held hoses will be allowed. This is a trial period of one year and will be reviewed annually thereafter.
- **Fence Repair;** Tenants of the Rattlesden Road allotments have had problems with Muntjac getting onto the site and eating their crops, temporary measures have been put in place to try to deter them. On close investigation of the fencing it was discovered that many of the fence posts have rotted. It has been agreed that replacing posts and repairing the fence should be budgeted for and the work carried out as soon as funds become available.

Expenditure for 2016 - 2017 £637.01

Receipts for 2016 - 2017 £295.17