Allotment report for Environment meeting 6th April 2021

Current vacancies:

Cherry Gardens - Site full, waiting list of 3 people

Netherfield Hill - Site full

Virgins Lane – Site full, waiting list of 4 people

Watch Oak – Site full, waiting list of 2 people

Allotment inspection:

Stephen Chilton, member of grounds staff, and I carried out an inspection of all sites on 9th March. No SAA representatives were asked to attend due to covid but a request was made for any issues to be reported to the office prior to the inspection date.

All sites were looking well kept and no significant issues were noted.

Nearly all plots have signs of being worked on and none are in a condition requiring action letters.

One or two fences have been affected by recent high winds and tenants have been notified accordingly.

Requests from SAA were: confirmation of when the water would be turned back on and notification of deposits of garden waste at Netherfield Hill, suspected to be by local residents.

Grounds staff confirmed water would be turned back on for all sites from Thursday 11th March as the weather forecast indicated no significant frosts were expected.

The garden waste deposits at Netherfield are not on BTC land but the adjacent development land. The owner has been notified.

Bonfires

Enquiries have been received as to whether bonfires can be permitted.

ESFRS had issued guidance advising bonfires should not be had during the covid lockdown and an update was requested.

A representative from ESFRS has telephoned the office to confirm the request for no bonfires is still in place. It is acknowledged that the local recycling sites are experiencing long queues, or requests to not visit the sites, but this is still the requested method to dispose of waste that cannot be composted.

Tenant request

A request has been received for the trees along the western boundary to be cut back hard to reduce shading to the lower plot. The grounds staff will investigate for options.

JdG

15.3.2021