



It should be Summer!



Allotments Newsletter

Issue 9 – July 2016: *Summer Edition*

The Newsletter is intended to provide information about the allotments as well as an opportunity for tenants to communicate with other allotment holders. Any comment about the allotments please get in touch with Ian Orton, Parish Clerk on 01943 864728 or clerk@burleyparishcouncil.co.uk

Prospect Road Allotments BBQ

On **Saturday 3rd September** 2016 at 3pm there will be a BBQ at the Prospect Road Allotments. The parish will provide the BBQ and some tables and chairs but we hope the allotment holders will provide some community food. People can bring the drinks they enjoy.

Ian would appreciate some help with this so if anyone can help set up please give me a ring otherwise see you all **Saturday 3rd Sept at 3pm!**

How the Parish Council spends Allotment Money!

There was a meeting of allotment holders back on 8th February and around 20 people attended. As people seemed to think it was useful several people asked that two meetings are held each year.

Possibly another meeting in early October?

If you think this is a good idea please let Ian know on 01943 864728 or clerk@burleyparishcouncil.co.uk

The Prospect Road Autumn Skip

**Will be delivered on Monday 3rd October and collected Monday 10th October!
Be interested to know if people feel two skips a year is helpful?!**

Allotment Inspections

The Annual Inspection of allotments will take place on Wednesday 27th July sometime during mid- morning!

Janet Souyave on becoming a councillor!



They told me it wouldn't take much of my time. Ha! They told me it would be interesting, well they were right there. At first I was surprised by the amount of power a Parish Council can exercise. Not the power to mould the village to its plans, that's what Bradford and central Government do; but the power to spend the money raised from the precept the amount you pay to the parish council each year.

So as well as the ticking over spending which maintains the village environment, there are new projects coming on line to improve village facilities. This means we spend half our meetings discussing allotment allocations and grass mowing and half prioritising our wish list of new facilities. Then we go into extra time for dog poo and parking.

The other role of the PC seems to be to hold Bradford accountable to provide the services we expect and are entitled to. I joined the council just as local government began "offering" some of its roles to PCs. Would we take over flower beds, libraries, the Queen's Hall and no doubt more to come? A bit like the Vicar of Dibley being asked to manage a big development company. And don't get me started on housing development....

I've been helped enormously by my colleagues on the council and I'm impressed by their knowledge, experience, common sense and the amount of time they give to the village.

Next year? Big changes coming up, lots of money to spend but lots of things to spend it on. I feel the need for more meetings coming on!!

'Witches fingers'

Over the years I have had an up and down relationship with my allotment
I love being in the open air, chatting to my fellow allotment holders, eating black currants straight from the bush but oh I find the incessant wedding depressing!

It's the witches' fingers that wear me down. I am told they are older than the dinosaurs
My relatively recent neighbour on the allotment adopted a policy of digging them out
In practice this has taken several years and can be likened to 'digging to Australia'
sometimes his plot looked more like a graveyard awaiting a burial!

I always harboured a secret ambition to become an archaeologist but common sense tells me that I have neither the stamina nor mental aptitude to compete with his approach
So I have invested in some new topsoil, and three enclosed beds one of which has weed proof matting beneath it.

Together with what I hope will prove to be intense, competitive planting I hope to beat the dreaded 'witches fingers'.

My allotment has now become 'top of the pops' – I love it more than my garden.

I can fill my freezer with enough fruit for the whole year of fruit crumbles. That bears cutting grass any time.

Frances M Regan