

Agenda Item 4

For Decision: Managing and maintaining Frome's allotment sites

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Introduction

There are eight allotment sites in and around Frome, offering a total of 232 plots.

We manage and maintain these sites in partnership with the Frome Allotments Association (FAA) and a copy of the agreement detailing how this works can be found at [Appendix 4.1](#).

The main recommendation at the end of this report is that this agreement is jointly signed, bringing it up to date for the life of the newly elected and formed Council.

The report follows a set of visits to the various allotment sites at the start of August.

Allotment sites – and the current waiting lists

As noted above, there are eight allotment sites in Frome offering 232 plots. There are currently 153 people waiting for plots. People can elect to wait for a plot at a specific site (as indicated below). Currently, 60 people are waiting for the next available plot at any site.

| Site | Size/sqm | Size/acres | Plots | Waiting |
|------------------|----------|------------|-------|---------|
| 1 North Parade | 2635 | 0.65 | 20 | 2 |
| 2 Muriel Jones | 11950 | 2.95 | 100 | 26 |
| 3 Mendip View | 3340 | 0.83 | 14 | 4 |
| 4 Orchard Street | 555 | 0.14 | 6 | 9 |
| 5 Welshmill | 8709 | 2.15 | 75 | 38 |
| 6 Cranmore View | 438 | 0.11 | 4 | 0 |
| 7 Queens Road | 1317 | 0.33 | 7 | 8 |
| 8 Singer's Knoll | 832 | 0.21 | 6 | 6 |
| | | | | 60 |
| Totals | | | 232 | 153 |

The FAA deals with all of the daily management of the allotments, including the waiting lists.

Upkeep

As detailed in the new agreement ([Appendix 4.1](#)) upkeep is coordinated and scheduled by the Rangers following regular meetings. At present, Rangers Dave & Toni are responsible for this.

Broadly, works to and around the boundaries of the various sites are completed directly by the Rangers; while works within the sites are completed by the FAA. We also lead on tree works in and near the allotment sites. Typically, this means hedge cutting at the start and end of the nesting season; and tree works from late autumn into winter and early spring.

Recommendations:

1. Councillors note and approve the report
2. The Chair of the Council Matters committee and the Chair of FAA jointly sign the agreement