

JUBILEE ALLOTMENT GARDENS

5 YEAR PLAN

Introduction and Work to Date

The site has reached a degree of maturity during the last five years since the commencement of JAG in 2013. It is appropriate to consider how the site is managed over the next coming 5 years

With the help of allotment holders two major pieces of work were completed in the first year, namely improving the drainage by laying a French Drain from the top gate by plot 1.5 diagonally to around plot 6.3 and then down to the bottom ditch. At the same time the existing ditches around the site were cleared and deepened with a mechanical digger and joined together with drainage pipe.

The second piece of work was the construction of the fencing around the two most vulnerable sides of the field. This has made the site secure.

In the current year the ditches have been manually cleaned by Abbey Volunteers and a drainage channel installed where the entrance from Church Path by the Vista Gate comes onto the site. This channels water away from following the path and makes the entrance more secure for tractors etc. entering the field area.

Proposed Plan 2018 - 2023

The JAG exists within the Abbey Lands and as such some of this planned work can only be undertaken with the Abbey Friends.

1. The boundary fence needs to be kept free from overhanging tree branches and the danger of trees falling onto the JAG site. There will be a joint annual review of the boundary with Abbey Friends to note any issues and to take appropriate action.
2. The boundary fence will be inspected annually to ensure it provides the maximum security possible for plot holders. Any faults will be logged and the committee will recommend action as appropriate. Regular maintenance of the locks will also take place. It is important that any faults are advised to the site manager as soon as possible by plot holders.
3. The ditches and access paths will be inspected annually to ensure they remain effective in draining water away from the site.
4. Grass cutting will be carried out regularly in the growing season. It is hoped to develop a timetable so plot holders will know when cutting is to take place. It is important that plot holders keep the long paths running North to South clear of obstructions especially netting and string as these foul the cutters and cause damage and delay. Similarly ensure that any stones seen are removed for the same reason.
5. The short one metre paths between plots running East to West are the responsibility of plot holders. These are to the North of each plot.

6. Any turf that needs removing will need to be disposed of by plot holders by “double digging” and burying on their plot.
6. The turf pile on row 9 will be flattened and this area used for additional plots.
7. The area referred to above will also be used to construct a series of communal compost heaps where excess weeds and produce can be left. This will be managed in rotation and composted materials becoming available in future years. This work is hoped to be achieved this year.
8. Much of the above is contingent on plot holders volunteering to help undertake tasks. All allotments rely on plot holders for maintenance and site improvements and JAG will need this resource to deliver the plan.