

Heidi Frary <hefrary@googlemail.com>

Annual Parish Meeting - Ovington Allotment Association Report

Chris Lewis <downtoearthcomputing@gmail.com> To: Heidi Frary <hefrary@googlemail.com>

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Hello Heidi,

Below please find below our report to the APM

Regards

Chris Lewis

2020 – 2021 has been a relatively successful season for Ovington Allotment Association despite, or maybe because of the restrictions of our everyday freedoms. All plots have been rented out with the great majority being actively cultivated and a waiting list of four. Although we were limited in our ability to hold fund raising events a slight increase in rents has allowed us to pay our insurance and still break even.

Despite a very wet winter causing part of the site to be under water at times we were still able to carry out essential maintenance tasks. Work has largely been completed repairing the east gate and replacing about half the fence posts. The parking area has been reinforced with hard core and a grant has been made available from the O.P.C. to complete the job with a layer of crushed concrete once the weather permits.

As one retiring member left us a large shed and a very unkempt allotment we decided, after considerable work removing rubbish, to adopt the site as a community area. The shed has been fitted out with tea and coffee making facilities, solar powered lighting and extended to include a covered area incorporating a bench commemorating the life of Steve Horton who sadly died last year. As we were given a large amount of woodchip this has been used to construct an outdoor seating area with benches donated by other benefactors.

Last year's competition and annual prize giving went ahead in a limited way without the use of the Village Hall and our usual barbecue but nevertheless attracted a good number of entries and many well deserved prizes. Activity so far this spring points to further successes in 2021.