

Allotment Report – May 2025

Both sites are in reasonably good shape although there are a number of problem plots, particularly on The Glebe. Some vacant plots require a lot of work to restore them to a state where they can be rented out again. There are also some plots which are currently non-compliant with the plot holder's Tenancy Agreement, and they can face eviction if action is not taken to address the non-compliant issues.

Simon Harrington has achieved wonders on the Hazel Coppice on the Glebe (Plot 39A). All the hazel stools are now cut to the ground and the plot cleared of branches, prunings and cuttings. This has created a large pile of brush wood which needs to be cleared – either burnt or chipped.

Within the terms of their Tenancy Agreement, plotheolders are allowed to burn prunings/cuttings, etc, but The Glebe has residential properties on three sides, so it is important that the wind is blowing in the right direction to prevent smoke drifting into residential areas. Up to now, the weathervane on the church spire has been used to indicate wind direction but this is not always that reliable or clearly visible which has triggered complaints. The Parish Council have therefore agreed to install a flagpole/flag in the centre of the Glebe so that wind direction can be easily verified.

Finally, we do have some vacant plots available, although work is needed on some of them to get them into a rentable state, so if you are interested, or know someone is, then please contact us.

Ray Lewis

Secretary, Wickham Market Allotment Association