

Sutton Parish Council Allotment Rules and Regulations

1. Rent payable

The rent shall be paid yearly in advance by the 1st October each year, and a proportionate amount of rent for any part of a year over which the tenancy may extend will be payable. New tenants shall pay a bond that will be repaid when the tenancy is terminated provided that the allotment is left in good condition. The Council may terminate the tenancy if rent is in arrears of the due date or if the tenant is not observing the rules and regulations or if the tenant dies. Should a tenant leave midyear, no refund will be given for any part of the tenancy year.

2. Food production

The tenant shall use the plot as an Allotment only for the production of vegetables, fruit and flowers and shall keep it clean and in a good state of cultivation. Livestock as permitted by **s. 12 Allotments Act 1950** – domestic chickens (but no cockerels) are permitted. Please inform the Council. No other livestock (other than rabbits) is permissible. The tenant may not use the allotment for trade or business.

3. Structures

Permission is necessary before any structure is erected. The tenant is responsible for the removal of any structure on or before the termination of the agreement. If allotment buildings are not kept in good repair, despite a written warning by the Council giving 2 months' notice, then the Council has the right to remove or dispose of dangerous structures and charge the tenant accordingly. No tenant is permitted to allow any building or structure on his land to be lived in. All non-organic waste should be removed by the tenant regularly.

4. Hedges, trees, boundaries and pathways

The tenant must be responsible for any hedges or trees adjoining his allotment, to keep them trimmed back and for keeping in good repair any fences or sheds on his/her allotment. Barbed wire should not be. No stones, rubble or debris of any sort should be left on the paths or plots. No soil or turf may be taken away. The central pathway through the site is cut by the Council and should be left clear at all times. Tenants of half plots should allow access to plots behind theirs by a shared footpath.

5. Vehicles

Vehicles should be driven and no more than 5mph. The tenant shall not keep any caravans, mobiles or vehicles on site.

6. Dogs

Dogs, if brought onto the plots by allotment holders, should be kept on a short leash at all times and no fouling is permitted or straying onto adjacent plots.

7. Vermin/Crop Disease

The tenant is responsible for ensuring their allotment plot is kept free of vermin. Effective measures must be undertaken to prevent potato or tomato blight.

8. Disputes

Any disputes must be referred to the Council whose decision is final. The Council (member or officer) shall be entitled to enter and inspect the allotments following instruction from the Council.

9. Notice

The Tenant shall give one month's written notice to terminate his tenancy. No refund shall be given if the termination is during the allotment year. The Council shall give the tenant 12 months' written notice. Tenants should advise the Council if they change their address.

10. Bonfires

Small garden waste fires are permitted only on the tenant's own plot. Any fire must be attended at all times. Garden waste fires are prohibited whenever a drought or fire ban has been declared. Fires may only be lit if there is no nuisance to neighboring properties.

11. Site Inspections

The Council or its representatives may from time to time undertake inspections of plots. No notice of this will be given to tenants. If a plot is found to be in a poor state of cultivation a letter will be issued to the tenant requesting improvement within 40 days. If improvement does not take place, then the tenancy may be terminated.