

BINGLEY TOWN COUNCIL



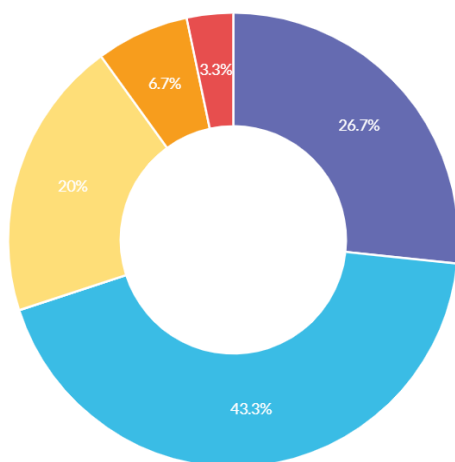
Bingley Town Council, The Hub, Myrtle Place, Bingley, BD16 2LF

Allotments Survey, 2023

Q1

What would be your preferred method of communication between plot holders and the council to report any problems, concerns or ask general questions going forward?

Multiple Choice

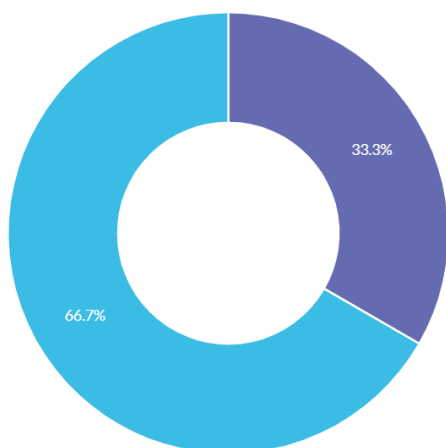


Choice	Total
Directly contacting the council staff via email	8
Asking the site rep to contact the council on your behalf	13
Attending the monthly Finance & General Purposes Committee meeting in person to discuss the allotments	0
An allotment association	6
Regular meetings with the council	2
Other	1



Q2

Would you be interested in setting up an allotment association?

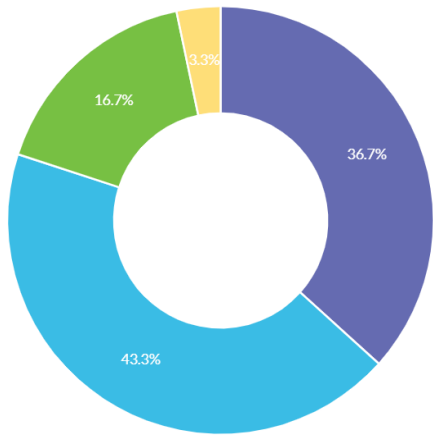
Multiple Choice





Choice	Total
Yes	10
No	20

Q3 If regular allotment meetings were to be set up between the plot holders and councillors, how often would you like this to happen?  

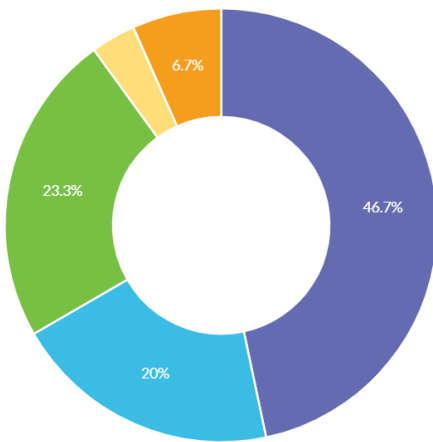
Multiple Choice



Choice	Total
Quarterly	11
Six monthly	13
Annually	5
Not interested	1

Q4 How many times do you use the communal plot on average in a year?  

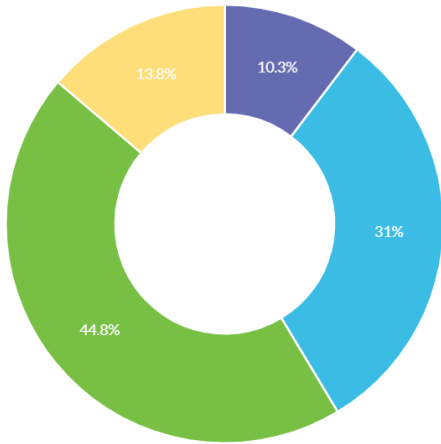
Multiple Choice



Choice	Total
Never	14
0-5	6
6-15	7
16-20	1
21+	2

Q5

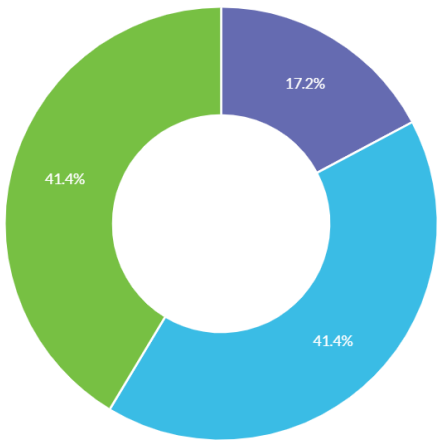
What are your reasons for using the communal plot?
Multiple Choice



Choice	Total
A place to relax	3
A place to socialise with other plot holders	9
I never use the communal plot	13
Other	4

Q6

If a space for the communal plot was relocated to another section of the allotment, would you continue to use/maintain it in the new location?
Multiple Choice



Choice	Total
Yes	5
No	12
I never use the communal plot	12

Q7

These are the proposed changes to the current Allotment Policy. a. 5.5 Joint/Shared Tenancy: To change to sole tenancies only for new plot holders. b. 5.10 Livestock and bees: To remove all reference...

Essay

Date	Answers
Mar 13	I disagree with only having a sole tenant as it would be unfair on the other person to loose out if a partner / husband passed away ..Bees need protecting ..and as regards plastic hard to avoid
Mar 13	Sounds fine.
Mar 13	plastic trays, plant pots, seed labels, sheets for covering cold frames, hoops for frames covering growing plants, plastic bottles used for individual plant protection. all these are used on my plot.
Mar 10	a) What's the problem? Very hard on surviving parner if then told they are to lose plot they have worked on. b) Should be encouraging bees in a safe area, not discouraging them. c) Advise alternatives
Mar 10	When there are many couples working as equal partmers on site it would be devastating to loose a partner and then the shared plot. . Bees vital to environment - should be allowed in restricted areas.
Mar 9	Have no objection to 5.16 Have no objection to plot holders keeping bees thus do not agree with 5.10 - wildlife should be encouraged on the allotment Have no issue with joint/shared tenancies
Mar 9	These seem acceptable.
Mar 8	a. No do not change b. No need for any livestock on allotment get rid of that whilst no one actually has any livestock c. No up to individuals if they want to use plastic
Mar 8	we need bees
Mar 6	If in the future a couple one of whom is the only sole tenant passes away, would the person not on the tenancy agreement lose the allotment? This seems very unfair on any couple
Mar 5	I feel there is a place for joint or shared tenancy agreement
Mar 4	5.5 Disagree- think couples should be allowed to have a joint tenancy so that one can retain their plot in event of death etc. of the other person 5.10 Agree 5.16 Agree
Mar 3	Sub-section 5.16 is a good start, but would suggest broadening it to include sustainable practices that could/should be implemented. So not just what people can't use/do, but sustainable alternatives.
Mar 3	I would like to see a regulation on the use of unsafe chemicals such as weed killer
Mar 3	5.5) Married couples should be able to have joint tenancy 5.10) Not if this means bees can be kept on site. 5.16) Agree
Mar 3	Sole tenancy is OK but need to consider in the event of death will Husband/Wife/Partner of deceased have first refusal of taking over the plot. No livestock. some plastic necessary.not enough word co
Mar 3	Agree with all of the above policy updates.
Mar 2	I think joint tenancies should be allowed. There are too many rules and regulations. Sometimes plastic sheeting can be useful. It should be up to tenants what they use on their plots.
Mar 2	Joint should remain in place for couples, married and unmarried, named joint tenancy should be allowed. Weed barriers, netting should not be banned.
Mar 2	I would like the policy to recognise unmarried couples and be allowed to have a joint tenancy, so if one dies the other remains a tenant. Thank you.
Mar 2	If used properly plastic is an appropriate material for warming the soil and preventing weeds from growing. If it is discarded and left to decay, I think that's more of a littering issue.
Mar 2	Don't see why the need to change to sole tenancy. Not sure what the change is regards bees. No issue with environmentally friendly products only.
Mar 2	We have to use plastic sometimes. The communal plot is currently well maintained. If it's moved will the council get the new site into the same condition ?
Mar 2	I would not be in favour of these changes.I already try to use environmentally friendly materials such as cardboard to cover ground in winter but also reuse plastic sheeting, netting and pots/bottles.
Mar 2	In agreement.



Date	Answers
Mar 13	Communal plot is there for everyone to enjoy and part take in
Mar 13	A Facebook group would be nice or something similar so we know what is happening. It is rare we ever hear from anyone.
Mar 13	Please continue to ensure that plot holders and the site rep are consulted on changes and activities before they are enacted and in a timely manner with clear communication. It feels like changes are being made unilaterally without meaningful consultation at the moment.
Mar 10	Insufficient room for adequate comments. Disingenuous not to specify where the community plot might be moved to. Some new tenants have never been introduced to site rep so are unaware of the role and the benefits and will be unable to provide a meaningful response. The site rep provides a focus for all community activity on the site and for passing on advice between ploholders on what has been found to grow well/badly in diferent areas of the site and can keep BTC informed of any issues.
Mar 10	We need a Site Rep. A good Site Rep keeps an regular eye on the site, reporting to the Town Council on matters needing attention & attending to minor tasks, He/she can brief new tenants on the pros & cons of their plots, welcoming them He/she can 1 give horticultural advice 2 alert tenants to emergencies on site eg robbery 3 spot pernicious weeds, pests 4 arrange facilities with BTC eg skip 5 obtain discounted goods in bulk 6 organise joint efforts 7 encourage tenants experiencing problems
Mar 9	It is good to have an allotment rep on the site to help us deal with any potential issue. The current location of the shared allotment is in a good part of the allotment for everyone to access and should it be moved elsewhere, it may be isolated.
Mar 9	To keep the communal plot where it is as removal of this could affect growth of unwanted difficult to control weeds.
Mar 8	I think allotment holders should get more say in what happens on allotments not the town council. With more surveys like this and with discussions with the allotment rep who knows about the allotment needs. I do not agree with plots getting divided into tiny plots just to keep the waiting list down. I think dogs should be banned from allotments there have been too many that have been left to roam around unattended for years. No chickens or rabbits on the allotments.
Mar 4	Still think that there should be a Site Representative as the role means that there is someone regularly on the site and who keeps in contact with plot holders.
Mar 3	I only became a plot holder in December, but everyone has been very welcoming and supportive. The communal plot is a lovely, central spot to encourage those friendly interactions, and I'd like to see it stay and be used in interesting ways (talks, more community activities, seed/plant swaps and so on).
Mar 3	No further comments.
Mar 3	oops will continue. Some plasticis necessary we have a Council approved compost bin and about 3 planters for plants that need ericacious soil. I always believed the Allotments ran very smoothly with Jennifer being our liason with the Council. My preference would be for this to continue. She does a marvellous job of keeping us informed of what's going on and I believe she confers our concerns back to the Council
Mar 2	The allotment is meant to be somewhere to relax that is good for our mental health. There are too many rules and regulations which makes the whole thing stressful.
Mar 2	As per previous comment, we need named joint tenancy to reflect and value the relationships that exist nowadays.
Mar 2	If the communal plot is moved to the dark and dingy corner of the site I would be less likely to use it as it is unwelcoming. The site is a community and a welcoming place for the community is needed to enable us to support each other, relieve loneliness for those that live alone and strengthen our community. I instigated and organised a good plant swap activity on the communal plot last year, something we can build on and is supported by other tenants.
Mar 2	Could the option of keeping/giving up plots be given at the end of the season such as in october. This would enable perspective plot holders to have the winter to work the plot and reduce the amounts of overgrown plots in the spring. Also is the guidance on tree heights goi g to change.
Mar 2	I would welcome an allotment society if it had practical aims such as helping plot holders acquire items such as manure or wood chip or a seed swap or equipment swap/loan scheme. Recent communications seem to have been punitive about what you cannot do rather than positive about encouraging people to use their plots in a more sustainable and more environmentally way to encourage wildlife.