



Ware Town Council

Report of Cemetery & Allotments Officer
Report to Community & Environment Committee
Date Monday 07 July 2023
Subject Cemetery and Allotments Report

Allotment Waitlist Report

There is currently a total of 43 people on the waiting list covering both sites.

Site	# on Waitlist	# of Vacant Plots
Crosspath Field (King George Road)	5	1
Warehouse Field (Widbury Hill)	38	11

There are 6 people on the Warehouse Field waiting list who have shared, over the last 6 months, they do not feel in a position to take on an allotment plot at this time. I will periodically contact them to see if their situation has changed and what their wishes are in regards to remaining on the waiting list. Them remaining on the waiting list does not impact those further down the list.

Allotment Inspections

Allotment inspections, across both sites, have been completed. There is a total of 194 plots. Each plot holder has received a copy of their individual inspection report. I have received positive feedback from a few plot holders in regard to the quality of the reports and the observations detailed. 60 of the plots will receive a follow up inspection after 2 months to see if the requested work or action has been undertaken. 25 of those 60 have been marked as 'poor' (16 at Warehouse Field and 9 at Crosspath) and if no work has been undertaken or conversations had with the Allotments Officer, further action will be taken regarding their tenancy.

Cemetery Topple Testing

Headstone topple testing is starting from 03.07.2023 at Ware Cemetery. Topple testing is required by Law to ensure all cemeteries are deemed safe. The work involves a headstone's stability being tested by hand to ensure it is not at risk of falling over. This previously became a statutory requirement following the death of a child visiting a London cemetery. If a headstone is considered unsafe measures are

taken to minimise the risk and where necessary, the legal registered owner of the grave space is required to fix or replace the headstone. Due to its sensitive nature, prior to the work commencing, we will notify the Town via notices and social media.