
Gardener's Question Time FAQs



September 2022

If you're looking for some extra growing space, the parish council has allotments near the village centre that can be rented out. This leaflet answers some of the most common questions that people ask. Have a look through, then contact the Clerk's office (details on the back page) if you'd like to take your enquiry further.

I want to grow some fruit and vegetables to use at home. How can the council help me?

The parish council has 26 allotments to rent on East Road in Menheniot village. You can rent one from us.

How big is the plot?

Each one is slightly different in size. Best way to find out is to go along and have a look for yourself, and maybe speak to some of the other plot holders.

How much are they?

The annual charge is £12 at the moment. This includes water charges and any other charges that might be levied on the allotments.

When do I have to pay?

You need to pay the full amount before you take over the ground. The annual rental is due in January each year.

If I take over a plot half way through the year, do I get a reduction?

No. The parish council has to cover the cost of the rent that it pays to the landowner, so we can't make any reductions.

How long does the rental agreement last for?

Every agreement is for one year only, and you renew it automatically when you pay your annual rent.

Does this mean that I could be asked to leave at the year end?

If the council needs you to leave, it would be for very specific reasons (for example, you'd broken one of the terms of your tenancy agreement or hadn't paid the rent). If we did terminate your agreement, you are entitled to three months' notice. It is very rare for the council to ask people to leave.

Can I have more than one plot?

If there are spare plots available, you can apply to us in the usual way. If there is no-one on the waiting list, we can usually agree to you having more than one plot.

Can I let someone else manage the plot for me?

If you're unwell and unable to manage the plot on a temporary basis, we are happy for someone else to look after the space on your behalf. However, you cannot sub-let the plot or pass it onto anyone else. If you think you may have a problem looking after the space, please contact the Clerk for advice.

I'd like to run my allotment as a small business and sell on the produce.

You can only grow produce, plants, fruit or flowers for your own personal consumption. You must not grow anything on a commercial basis BUT you can sell any genuine surplus at the monthly Farmer's Market.

How do I go about getting an agreement?

Firstly, speak to the councillor who has responsibility for the allotment lettings. They can tell you very quickly what is available or how long you might have to wait for a plot to be free. If you're still interested, leave the councillor your contact details (name, phone, email address and postal address) and we will write to you with an offer (if one can be made) or we will put you on our waiting list. Any changes you want to make about your plot (for example, giving notice, moving to another plot, paying the rent) must be confirmed through the Clerk's office. Their contact details are listed at the bottom of the leaflet.

Privacy Notice

The parish council will only keep a record of your contact details in order for us to write to you about allotments. You can view our full privacy notice on the front page of the council's web site.

Contact	Menheniot Parish Council
Email	clerk@menheniotparishcouncil.co.uk
Phone	01579 342437
Web	menheniotparishcouncil.org.uk