

Ebley Allotments Association

“Allotments are an important feature in the cultural landscape. They combine utility, meaning and beauty with local distinctiveness” (UK Parliament Report from Allotment Survey 1997)

Ebley Allotments is situated off Chapel Lane, Ebley. It is one of three Allotment sites in Cainscross with land provided by Cainscross Town Council. The Ebley Allotment site is self managed by Ebley Allotments Association and the Association pays an annual rent to Cainscross Town Council which also has oversight of the site. There is an elected Committee who manage the site.

Currently, there are just over 100 plots varying in size from small plots (10 yards x 6 yards or 2 lugs*) to full size plots (10 yards by 30 yards or 10 lugs). A lug* is a traditional measurement for allotment plots and is used by Ebley Allotments for identifying plot size and annual plot fees.

Our Principles:

- To provide affordable opportunities for people in the local community to grow their own food in as cost effective way as possible
- To provide opportunities for local people, who may or may not have their own garden, to learn and experience the joy and benefits of gardening and horticultural activities within a community of other gardeners/ growers.
- To provide opportunities that are beneficial to physical and mental well-being
- To provide opportunities for social inclusion
- To contribute to sustainable methods of food production by composting etc
- To contribute towards maintaining diversity through organic methods wherever possible
- To contribute to the reduction of the effects of climate change by providing ‘green space’ in a built up area, encouraging organic methods and, where possible, plot holders walking to the site.

Our Values:

- Ebley Allotments Association supports the treatment of everyone with dignity, respect and courtesy whilst at the Allotments
- Ebley Allotments Association is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity and diversity and recognises that members, allotment tenants, volunteers, visitors or users of our allotments, should not experience discrimination on any grounds.

Allotment Policies and Procedures:

Ebley Allotments Association Committee has produced the following policies and procedures that guide our activities with the aim of providing consistent and transparent procedures that support the operation, enjoyment and safety of the allotment site and all who use it.

- General introduction
- Tenancy Agreement
- Welcome to Plot Holders
- Waiting List Policy
- Complaints Policy
- Health and Safety Policy

All plot holders are required to consent to the terms of the **Tenancy Agreement** on taking on a plot, a copy of which will be emailed or a hard copy will be given. All plot holders are expected to abide by the policies and procedures outlined in the documents. Any issues should be raised with a member of the Committee at the earliest opportunity.

The policies and procedures are available to view on the Cainscross Town Council website under Ebley Allotments: <http://www.cainscross-pc.gov.uk/> or available by request from the Secretary ebleyallotments@gmail.com.

Plot Fees:

The tenant shall pay a yearly rent as determined by the Annual General Meeting in March. The plot fee and NSALG membership are non-returnable unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Plot fees are calculated by lug size, currently £1.50 per lug.

1st April – end of October: full plot fee. If plot very unkempt then 2 members of the Committee can agree 50% plot fee.

1st Nov – end of March: no charge.

The tenant shall pay the annual membership fee of the National Association of Allotment Gardeners (NSALG) irrespective of when they take on a plot. Membership of the NSALG ensures there is third party insurance and access to benefits such as reduced costs for ordering King's Seeds and access to information and guidance.

Plot holders are restricted to a maximum of 10 lugs per household.

The majority of plot holders have one plot. However, there are a few plot holders who have more than one plot which exceeds 10 lugs. This is a historical legacy when there were available plots and no one on the Waiting List and has been agreed by the Town Council that these plot holders can retain their plots. Allotment plots are now sought after so this practice is no longer allowed. A plot holder can still hold more than one plot but this cannot exceed 10 lugs per household.

Committee Members 2023/24

Chair: Robin Phillips chairmanebleyallotmentsntsnts@gmail.com

Treasurer: Roy Richards treasurer.ebleyallotments@gmail.com

Secretary: Heather Clapp ebleyallotments@gmail.com (mob 07920877706)

Committee Members:

Mike Collins – Dedicated Plot Holder (oversees day to day running)

Jackie Williams

Tony Watts – additional orders

Phil Schubert: coordinates seed order

Vacancy

New applicants

If you are interested in obtaining a plot, then contact the Secretary by email in the first instance and provide your full name, contact telephone number, address and email. There is a Waiting List Policy and guidance is given in the policy on how a plot is allocated.

Notes:

**A lug is a traditional measurement for allotments and used by Ebley Allotments Association for identifying plot size and plot fees. A full size plot is 10 lugs ie 10 yards x 30 yards or approx 250sqm. Our smallest plots are 2 lugs (10 yards x 6 yards/ approx 50sqm). Most plots are medium size/ 5 lugs and there are a number of large/ full size plots.*