

## ITEM 8

### ALLOTMENT FEES

#### 8.1 Allotment Fees

The allotment season runs from 1<sup>st</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> October and tenants must be notified in writing the following season's fees a year in advance.

Newent's allotment fees for 1st November 2023 to 31st October 2024 are:

- £54 per full plot
- £27 per half plot
- £14 per quarter plot

With discounts of £3 per full plot, £1.50 per half-plot and £1 per quarter plot if payment is received in full before 1st November 2023.

A review of allotment fees in the surrounding area has recently been undertaken by Josh of which the research is below;

Gloucester City Council:

<https://www.gloucester.gov.uk/environment-waste-recycling/allotments/>

### How much does it cost?

The following outlines the general costs and concession rates:

- **Standard half plot** - (126 square metres): £24.24 per annum (Over 65 years /Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support/ Disabled: £14.54 per annum)
- **Standard full plot** - (253 square metres): £48.67 per annum (Over 65 years /Housing Benefit/Council Tax Support/ Disabled: £29.20 per annum).
- Disabled concessions are based on certain criteria which will be clarified at the start of the tenancy.
- All concessions are applicable to one plot per person only.

Please note that there is a charge of **£20** to set up a new tenancy. This is a one-off fee and you will be billed with your first invoice.

The allotment tenancy year runs from 1 November to 31 October.

If you're a new/existing allotment tenant and you wish to erect a structure (shed, greenhouse, poly tunnel, etc.), you need permission from the city council to do so.

Tetbury:

<https://www.tetbury.gov.uk/community/allotments>

# New Picket Harp Allotments

## Number of plots

There are 29 plots, ranging in size from 65sqm to 130sqm.

## Allotment Rents

The allotment rents range from £20 a year for a small plot to £40 for a large one, there is a waiting list and this is actively managed.

## Facilities

All allotments have sheds (although these are shared for small plots), taps and water troughs are evenly distributed over the site. A Community Orchard has also been created for all plot-holders to benefit from and enjoy.

Coleford also have various prices for allotments of which can be viewed here:

[https://www.colefordpc.org.uk/data/uploads/584\\_1081981890.pdf](https://www.colefordpc.org.uk/data/uploads/584_1081981890.pdf)

The most relevant item in this document being Table C of which states various annual rents.

Higham and Longford Parish Councils and allotment associations were also approached regarding this research however have not got back to me with fees and charges. I also investigated Lydney's current fees and charges but could not find them.

From this research it suggests that Newent are currently in line with the charges and fees for allotments and are in line with the increases being made.

The fees for 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 now need finalising. At the Council meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023, the Council resolved to increase all plots by £2 for the season; the fees being:

- £56 per full plot
- £29 per half plot
- £16 per quarter plot

Although there have been significant increases in site water charges and allotment maintenance costs during the last six months, it is recommended to increase the fees only slightly again, but proportionally based on the size of plot, as done previously; plus the annual discounts be adjusted to whole pounds. The suggested fees for 1st November 2024 to 31st October 2025 are:

- £57 per full plot (an increase of £3 on 2023/2024 fee)
- £29 per half plot (an increase of £2 on 2023/2024 fee)
- £15 per quarter plot (an increase of £1 on 2023/2024 fee)

With discounts of £3 per full plot, £2 per half-plot and £1 per quarter plot if payment is received in full before 1st November 2024.

**Proposal:** To approve the revised allotment fees and early payment discounts for the season 1st November 2024 to 31st October 2025.