



# **GUIDANCE FOR PLOTHOLDERS**

**2018**

**Issue 1**

**Please read this in conjunction with your tenancy agreement.**

**Plots** - need to be cultivated i.e. crops grown and kept weed free. All the space needs to be used – a minimum cultivation of 40% in the 1<sup>st</sup> year, 75% from then on – the rest kept tidy.

**Plot numbers** - need to be clearly marked on a post or structure on your plot.

**Paths** – around all plots are there for shared access, need to be level and about 40” wide so that a loaded wheelbarrow may pass. Adjoining tenants are responsible for keeping the paths passable, level and tidy.

**Fences** – should be at least 20” away from the centre of the path, so if your neighbour does the same the access is still clear.

**Structures** – please ask the committee – sheds, greenhouses or polytunnels up to 8’ x 6’ are generally allowed. They need to be 12” from the path or boundary for maintenance and access. Doors should open onto your plot not the pathway.

**Concrete** – should **not** be used at any time on your plot. All structures and fences should be removable.

**Water** – hand held hoses are allowed. Drip/soaker hoses may only be used when you are on your plot. Sprinklers may not be used at any time.

**Trees** – only fruit trees from dwarf or semi-dwarf stock and kept below 2.5m high for easy and safe harvesting are permitted.

**Waste Bays** – are **only** for allotment rubbish although you may bring green waste from home for your plot compost bin. Compost as much green waste as possible on your plot.

**Bonfires** – are not encouraged because they can cause air pollution and affect people with breathing difficulties. If you do have a bonfire only burn dry materials, do not leave it unattended and make sure it is fully extinguished by hosing it down before you leave. It must not cause a nuisance to your neighbours and must only be lit after dusk.

**Dogs** – must be kept under control so as not to be a nuisance to others.

**Materials** – to be used on your plot such as poles, posts and netting, etc can be stored there.

**Invasive plants** - such as bamboo, Japanese knotweed, Himalayan balsam, all types of willow, fast-growing conifers and toxic plants such as giant hogweed are not permitted.

**Parking** - you may only park in the road temporarily when delivering materials to your plot. Please use the car parks provided and at no time should you park your car on your plot.

**If you are unsure please ask!**

## **Martin Way Allotments – a self-managed community**

MAGA is run by a small committee of plot holders who volunteer to run the allotments on everybody's behalf. They are voted in at the AGM in April each year.

By being self-managed we control our own budget and can make decisions about what we would like to improve on the allotments. This also keeps the cost of the rents low but it does mean we all need to help as part of the allotment community.

You are encouraged to volunteer to help run the allotments. This can take the form of organising social events, helping in the shop, helping with working parties, etc. If you would like to become more involved please see a member of the committee or email us.

**Plot inspections** - are carried out at least twice a year and are to keep the allotments well used. A 'Tidy up' (TU) or a 'Notice of Non Cultivation' (NNC) letter may be issued depending on the state of the plot.

Both letters requires the plot holder to attend to the plots in a timely manner within 21 days. If nothing is done then further action is taken, potentially leading to a termination of tenancy. If there are special circumstances please let the committee know as these will be taken into consideration.

See <http://maga.org.uk/p/general-info/plot-inspections> for further info.

## **Social Events**

April – AGM

May – Plant Sale

September – Summer Produce Show

October – Pumpkinfest

**Shop opening times** – Weekends, February through to October, see notice board or website for details.

Email - [committee@maga.org.uk](mailto:committee@maga.org.uk)

Website - [www.maga.org.uk](http://www.maga.org.uk)

