

Bosavern Community Farm Allotments – Report for AGM 2020

It's been a difficult year which has disrupted the work on improving the allotments site and building the allotments community. We have been fortunate that under the Covid rules people have still been allowed to work their allotments as long as they keep socially distant. It also has meant that more people want to grow their own food and we have had strong interest throughout the year from people wanting to take a plot on, so we increased the area available for public plots. Now 80% of our 30 allotments have been taken, leaving just 6 full allotments available. As we allow half allotments, we have 29 separate plots taken. The pandemic has not surprisingly made it difficult for a lot of plot holders to do as much on their plots as they had hoped. We hope this year will be better.

Because of Covid we still have to rabbit-fence a third of the plots on the eastern side of the field. As soon as the lockdown eases we will arrange for this to be done.

Thanks to help from Fraser, one of our plot holders, we extended the water pipe to the eastern plots so those plot holders now have easy access to water from a standpipe.

With the Covid restrictions we have not been able to hold a meeting on the site but did have a successful meeting via Zoom, where some of the pressing issues were discussed - drainage, water storage, and long-term wind breaks.

Some work has been done on acquiring trees to plant to make wind breaks. Unfortunately, the week they were delivered the target area was very wet so they were temporarily planted at the top of the field ready for later replanting this spring.

We are still planning to seek funding for a community shed to store and swap tools and seeds. This will also allow us to set up training sessions for novice gardeners, providing information about setting up an allotment and giving growing advice.

Lastly, I am pleased to welcome Caroline Streat as Allotments Co-ordinator. She took over from me in December. Plots cost £50 or £30 for half a plot. Please contact Caroline at allotments@bosaverncommunityfarm.org.uk for more information.

Rob Pickering, Director