

# Attention all Allotment Holders and Dog Walkers



## Ideas for our New Community Area / Easy Access Area Revamp

As discussed at the recent Hempland Lane Allotments AGM the rebuilding of the beds in our easy access area had continued in 2017 & 5 have now been fully refurbished but it is not a quick or a cheap process. 3 will be replaced in the centre in 2018.

The outside beds were sadly badly designed and are basically unlettable because they are rotting & are deemed unsafe. The committee have been trying to carefully utilise these beds during 2017 to grow crops to sell in the shop to raise additional funds.

Although the refurbished beds look great the rental income from them is very small (approx. £12 per annum). We only have fairly minimal use of the beds at present as well so what do we do?

The adjoining plot holders Robin Gommersall (Plot69A) & Nigel Collinson (Plot66) are in danger of the beds at the edge collapsing on to their plots. Nigel has concreted some posts in at his side to give the ailing fence some additional support.

It was agreed after some discussion at the AGM, that the outside beds could as a temporary measure be removed in 2018 and further discussion have come up with the idea of transforming it into a dedicated community area, where we can hold our coffee mornings, BBQs, events etc.

This would mean removing all the old & rotting timber but the mammoth task would be removing the soil & cobbles underneath. Some of the soil could be used to raise levels on some of the low plots on the site. This could be a project that could be undertaken by the Pay Back Team.

We are looking at grant applications and possibly creating some safer and smaller raised beds and storage areas.

**These are the ideas that we have so far. What do you think?**

Create a Community area that can be launched as we celebrate our 100 years.

A communal herb bed at the front of the site, which would disguise a pallet storage area underneath so store our BBQ and seating, tables etc. At the front of this the exterior wall, leading from the shop, could be made with a bespoke cage that is filled with the cobbles, that we already have under the raised beds.



Then from the inside view point, put large potted plants in pallet planters in front of the joins and pad locks of the cupboard doors so that it is not obvious that they are storage units.



A place where we can hold our Summer Fete, Autumn Shows etc. rather than using a car park, next to a composting toilet.

Built in BBQs



Also, does anyone have any old Hempland Lane Allotment photos and / or memorabilia? - if so please see Kevin Holland plot 44

If we do the What do people think??

Any other ideas would be great?

We really want your feedback and it will help with our grant application to demonstrate that we are consulting the allotment and dog walking community who use our site and to listen to your ideas too.

All feedback emailed to [Gayle.farrington@btinternet.com](mailto:Gayle.farrington@btinternet.com) or handed to a committee member or the shop on a Sunday morning, by Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Thank You

Seating Areas

## Repurposed Wooden Pallet Sofa Plan



