

# Thame Town Council

## Allotment Policy

The allotments are managed by Thame Town Council, wishing to help progress allotments in a positive and friendly manner.

Thame Town Council (The Council) aim to make the allotments a welcoming environment for all, by respecting and valuing each other and appreciating each other's positive contribution.

### 1. Equality

- 1.1 The Council are committed to providing a supportive and equitable environment for all tenants and visitors.
- 1.2 The Council expects all tenants to treat each other with equality and fairness. Discrimination on any grounds including (but not limited to) race, religion, beliefs, age, gender, sexuality or ability is unacceptable.
- 1.3 The Council recognises that allotment gardening is an excellent way for people to keep fit and active, both physically and mentally, for everyone – regardless of ability. Where it is possible and practical, the Council aim to make provisions for older gardeners and individuals who consider themselves disabled.

### 2. Diversity

- 2.1 The Council seeks to reflect the vitality of our local community and value all individuals – each with diverse backgrounds, needs, opinions, cultures, lifestyles and circumstances.
- 2.2 To this effect, the Council will not accept any form of discrimination, harassment, bullying, victimisation or intimidation by / from any of the tenants.
- 2.3 Any person who feels they have received unfair treatment should report the matter to the Council.

### 3. Child Protection

- 3.1 Tenants are welcome to bring children onto the site under the supervision of a responsible adult at all times.
- 3.2 Allotments can be exciting and educational places, but they can also present all kinds of hazards to youngsters. For this reason, responsible adults must be extra vigilant at all times when accompanied by children.

### 4. Environmental

- 4.1 The Council believes that allotments have an important role to play in promoting healthy and sustainable lifestyles within the local community. Access to healthy food produced locally using environmentally friendly methods can be beneficial to the health of individuals, the community and the environment.
- 4.2 The Council, as part of the Allotment Movement, is improving the quality of life and the local environment.
- 4.3 In order to minimise impact upon the local environment, the Council promotes the following:

- Reusing and recycling waste; composting and leafmould production; encouraging and exploring new ways to reduce waste.
- Encouraging efficient use of water by storing water in tanks or water butts; and non-wasteful use of tap water.
- Support for self-help projects aimed at upgrading the site and, where possible, bringing vacant and overgrown areas back into sustainable use.

## **5. Complaints Procedure**

- 5.1 Should you wish to make a complaint, please direct your complaint to Thame Town Council who will investigate the matter and take action within their powers, as they see fit.