

## Cripley Meadow Allotment Association Newsletter March 2020

[www.cripleymeadow.org.uk](http://www.cripleymeadow.org.uk)

We had a good turnout for OxClean last year, hoping for the same this Sun March 1<sup>st</sup> 10:30 at the Shed as usual.



Because we have done it for 9 years the car park and surrounds have improved enormously. Thanks to Phyllis and Jamie who are leading our OxClean this year. We usually manage to fit in an hour of working party work too. If the weather is OK we will try burn off the large bonfire pile and check across the site for rubbish that can go out to the OxClean pile. We'll restore black plastic that has blown away in the storms.

### Flooding

**Water levels have been up and down across the site in Jan and Feb. Let's hope the down continues.**

### Invoices for 2020/21

Your invoice should have arrived. Only one invoice is sent per plot; if you haven't had one do check with the lead member. If you are not planning to renew your subscription, let us know NOW. All should have received an email invitation to the AGM, with agenda and Annual Report. If you did not, contact [secretary@cripleymeadow.org.uk](mailto:secretary@cripleymeadow.org.uk)

### Payment is due on or before the AGM.

After the AGM there is a £10 surcharge. If we do not hear from you the plot will return to CMAA.

## Our 2020 AGM is on Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup> at St Barnabas School Hart Street, Jericho.

Come at **4pm for 4:30 start**. It's a really important time for Oxford allotments as we plan for the next 21-year lease which begins in March 2021. We will be discussing proposed changes to rules, increase in plot fees and feedback on the travel survey, so it's important that as many members as possible attend. **Members of the Committee will be there from 4pm setting up chairs, taking subs. This year we'll provide tea/coffee – please bring a mug and even cake to share.** We aim (projector willing) to have key info on screen.

We have one new committee member – Julia Popescu - who was co-opted as our Castle Mill representative last year. We are losing Sara Jones, our treasurer since 2015, who has been busy handing over to Jamie Forbes. Apart from her attention to our finances, Sara was a Cripley Meadow Trustee and a frequent stall helper at our plant stall at Jericho fair. We are pleased that Sara will stay as a member on Plot 71.

**We have had a few loads** of woodchip by The Green and as usual they disappear quite quickly. If your plot is by the Green, please leave some for other members further away.

**Tree contract work** OCC and Sylva trees are waiting for the water levels to recede so that their heavy machinery can get on site.

**Jericho Fair** - We hope to be there as usual in June, so please make some spares to donate when you are sowing seeds or splitting plants.



**Audit preparation** Our Field Secretary, Tia, sent a note to those with oversized trees; there are still a number well over our 10ft rule. This is the maximum height after growth, so you need to prune smaller. Do get it done before all starts to surge. **Plots, paths and boundaries** - remember you may not grow anything **higher than the width of the path. i.e. 2.5 to 3 ft** next to paths and adjacent boundaries (i.e. where plots back onto one another). This is not just because of blocking light but also due to root spread. You can grow up to 5ft on a boundary next to a site path /headland. Tia will next be sending info re plot paths that need work to bring within rule. **There are still too many plots without a visible number. If yours is one, please get it sorted ASAP.** It doesn't have to be fancy.



**Good gardening. I am looking forward to seeing you at the AGM, Wendy.**