



PITSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

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ANNUAL NOTICE OF FEES FOR 2025/26

The cost of your allotment is divided into two parts, the first being the tenancy fee charged by the parish council and the second being a membership fee charged by Pitstone Allotment Association.

To keep the costs as low as possible for tenants, the Parish Council has agreed to revert to commissioning the annual hedge cutting at the site. As a VAT registered body, we can reclaim the VAT for this service, which means that the VAT cost doesn't have to be passed to tenants. The quotation for this work in the autumn of 2025 is £240, which is equivalent to £3 per quarter plot. Therefore, this year you will see a £3 per quarter plot reduction in the Allotment Association element of the costs, and an equivalent £3 per quarter plot increase in the Parish Council element of the costs.

The Council is grateful to PAA for their water cost prediction report for 2025-26. This estimates the annual bill to increase to something in the region of £858 per annum. Water fees (not usage) have increased by 81% since 2021. If the Council charges £11 per quarter plot per annum, this generates an income of £803, which will hopefully cover the water bill. We hold some accrued funds, ringfenced for the allotments, so if the bill is higher than income generated the cost will be covered from these reserved funds.

The total cost per quarter plot will therefore be:

- £4 for PAA subscription (a reduction of £3 re the removal of the hedge cutting) and
- £14 for Parish Council tenancy (reflecting the £2 increase to meet the water bill and £3 increase to reflect the hedge cutting)
- Total cost = £18.00 per quarter plot for the 2025/26 season (an overall increase of £2pqp)

As per the terms and conditions of your Allotment Garden Tenancy Agreement, the renewal rental will be payable in full on or before 30 September 2025. New paperwork, for your signature, and your invoice will be issued at the start of September.

We hope that you continue to enjoy your allotment garden in this beautiful location and reap the benefits for your families. Should you decide that you do not wish to renew your tenancy, please notify us as soon as possible so that it can be allocated to the next person on the waiting list.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at parishclerk@pitstone.co.uk.

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Mrs Laurie Eagling
Clerk to Pitstone Parish Council