

Snape Allotments Report April 2021

It has been a busy year at the allotments in Snape. Situated off Priory Road to the north of the river Alde, the allotments form 15 plots of various sizes. All are rented out for the year April 2021 to 2022. We have had several new holders take on plots in the last year, following on from some retirees. My special thanks to Raymond and Rosemary Smith, long term holders, who will be missed at the site but are very close by and continue to work hard in their own garden.

During the year the site has benefitted from the addition of a hand pump, providing water for all those lovely crops. Thanks to grants from Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and a locality grant from our District Councillor, Andrew Reid, the cost to the Parish Council was minimal.

The work to the site has also included clearance of rubbish, that had accumulated over a number of years and thanks again to some holders who went the extra mile, Toby Crisp and Dave Norman.

The site benefits from 2 communal greenhouses, close by to the water pump. The area has a number of trees, including willow trees that love the damp soil conditions from the high water table. We have undertaken work to three of those willows to maintain their health and also for the safety of the neighbouring plots. Councillor Norman's hard work in organising the work through local tree surgeon, Paul Bush, is appreciated. She will also be working with holders to plant bulbs in the area later in the year, as part of the Green Snape project and, again, we have benefitted from a grant from our local Council representatives.

The last year has been a challenge for us all and the chance to get out and do some gardening in the socially distanced plots has, I understand from many of the holders, been a relief. Hopefully 2021/22 will be a good year for all and the Weather Gods smile on gardeners everywhere.

Snape Parish Council Allotment Rep. Helen Stuart.