

“2014-2015”

There are 14 half plots at Whilton allotment gardens which this year were not all taken up and throughout the year some of our members were incapacitated through illness and could not take full advantage of this valuable village amenity. However, as we go into 2015-16 I am pleased to report that all plots have been taken up and several folk new to allotment gardening have taken the plunge.

Once again we experienced a relatively mild winter though there was a setback in March which held things up and late frosts were a problem for some. Watering was necessary later in the Summer and WAG acknowledges the fact that the parish council allow for a notional 12 Cu metres consumption per year which appears reasonable to all concerned.

The boundary fencing on the Southern perimeter needed attention and contractors were brought in last Spring to tidy up the accessible hedging and renew the wire fence. A satisfactory outcome.

Allotment holders continued to mow and strim between plots, taking turns as much as possible and meeting the cost of servicing and petrol from the group members. The ex-parish council mower just about meets the requirements but some prefer to bring their own petrol mowers when taking their turn.

In early part of this calendar year it was noticed that the mostly holly hedge in the south east corner had grown considerably and action by the landowner was deemed necessary. The Parish council is to be thanked for taking prompt action putting a little pressure on the adjacent neighbour who has reduced both the height and thickness of the hedge.

The members of this group (WAG) meet regularly approximately every two months, taking it in turns to play host. The group also is affiliated to the National Allotment Society which offers advice on horticultural and contemporary issues and also provides Public Liability insurance at a reasonable cost. This was one of the conditions required by the Parish council at the start of last year.

In 2015-2016 WAG looks forward to working with Whilton Parish Council in maintaining this valuable local resource as an attractive part of the environment, assisting if possible in ensuring the lease with Daventry District council is renewed in 2016.

Brian Melling

Chairman

Whilton Allotment Group

April 9th 2014