

Report of The Nether Stowey Allotment Association

Parish Council Meeting 12 May 2025

The Nether Stowey Allotment Association has 24 allotment plots of varying sizes. The whole area is roughly triangular in shape and has a small stream and bank with trees on one side, a field fence on another and a bank and trees on the third side. The plots are productive, with the main crops being vegetables with some fruit and flowers also grown.

At the start of 2024 all our allotment plots were allocated and we had a small waiting list. By the end of the year four plots of various sizes became available. People give up their allotments for a variety of reasons. Their circumstances can change and they can no longer commit the time to managing a plot and some move away from the parish. This can happen at any time.

By January of 2025 all plots were once again taken up and the waiting list was cleared. There is now a mixture of people working the plots, some new to allotment gardening and those who have had more experience. They are also a very friendly and helpful group. At the moment there is no waiting list.

The allotments are a tranquil place, despite their proximity to the A39 and there is certainly peace to be had being out in the fresh air growing things and planning your next crop. However, an allotmenteer must be pragmatic and vigilant, not all things planted will grow and if you turn your back on the weeds for even a short time they will try to take over. There are also lots of positives and the pleasure in contemplating a newly turned plot ready for planting or harvesting freshly grown vegetables, outweighs all the work.

We are of course at the mercy of the weather. In the last couple of years, in the winter, when we have had prolonged wet weather, the stream which runs alongside the recreation ground has overflowed the culvert under the old A39 (our access road). A torrent of water has run down the road before eventually re-joining the stream just before the allotment gates. The road was impassable for weeks and a mass of debris was deposited on the road by the flow. Fortunately because of the work by some of the allotment holders, the flow was diverted before it could flood the allotments. This was probably the most exciting event to happen in 2024/5.

We welcome applications from Nether Stowey residents for an allotment plot, and even if there are none available at the time, there is the waiting list. As was mentioned previously, things can change at any time.

For more information please contact:

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