

HAHA

Hungerford Allotment Holders Association

Fact Sheet
No 1

An Introduction to Hungerford Allotments

An allotment is a piece of land that can be rented by an individual for growing fruit, vegetables and flowers for personal and family use.

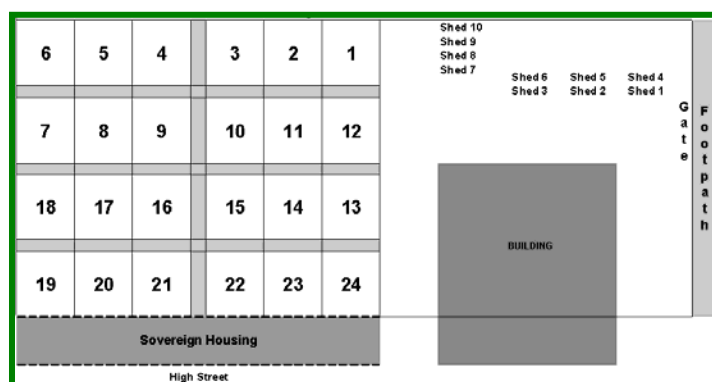
Parish and Town Councils have a duty to provide allotment plots for their residents. Hungerford Town Council (HTC) has provided two sites within Hungerford. Both sites are self managed on behalf of HTC by the Hungerford Allotment Holders' Association (known as HAHa).

Fairfield Allotments

This town centre site has been leased from Sovereign Housing, who also own the surrounding properties. It was officially opened in November 2009 and consists of twenty-four small plots.

Site Management

Self management means that allotment holders run the sites themselves; collecting rents, maintaining waiting lists, organising working parties, etc. Because this voluntary work saves the Council time and money, HAHa can use more of the income generated by plot rentals to improve and enhance the allotment sites; for example by erecting fencing and supplying water.



Marsh Lane Allotments

This large, rural site has been leased from a private landowner and was officially opened in May 2010. It consists of 109 plots in a variety of sizes.



Hungerford Allotment Holders' Association (HAHA)

Allotment holders at both Hungerford sites can opt to become members of HAHA. Membership is free of charge and enables us as allotment holders to decide how our sites are managed, raise and resolve issues and apply for grants towards improving site facilities. Please note that only the plot holder who signs the tenancy agreement qualifies for official HAHA membership, enabling them to vote.

Both sites have separate committees dealing with site specific matters, as well as the main HAHA committee who are responsible for running both sites and liaising with HTC. Committee members are allotment holders who are proposed and elected at an Annual General Meeting, or co-opted throughout the year. Volunteers who would like to be on the committee, or help in other ways, are always welcome.

Benefits

In addition to having a say about how our allotment sites are run, HAHA membership brings other benefits. Members can buy seeds and gardening materials such as fleece and net from HAHA's Seed Secretary at discounted rates and seed nights will be held so that we can benefit from placing bulk seed orders.

Our RHS Affiliated Society membership also entitles HAHA members to free gardening advice from RHS experts as well as discounted rates for RHS shows and gardens.

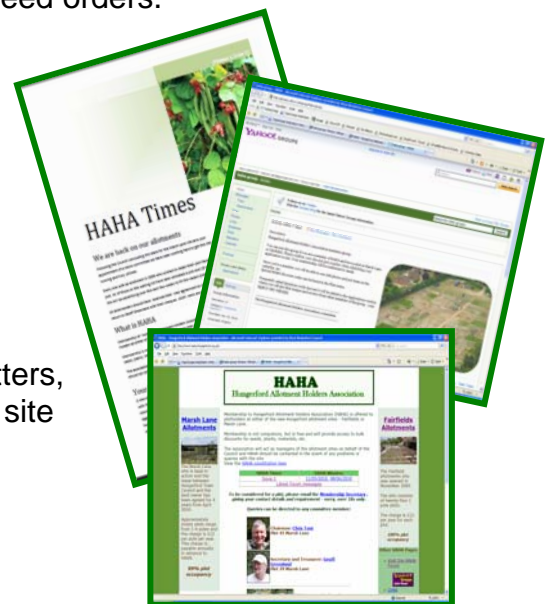
Newsletters

HAHA produce and circulate a newsletter called the HAHA Times to all allotment holders. It covers both allotment sites and is designed to keep members informed of news, events and activities. Contributions are always welcome such as letters, comments, gardening tips, etc. A copy will be pinned to the site notice boards for those allotment holders not on email.

The Fairfield committee also produce their own newsletter specifically for their own site.

HAHA online

Information about both sites can be found on our web page www.haha-hungerford.org.uk and the HAHA forum (click on the link from our website). Anyone can read the messages on the forum and anyone with an association to a plot can join the group enabling them to post messages, access documents, photos, links, recipes, promotional codes and events calendar.



Contacting HAHA

If you need information, have an enquiry about your bill or a comment for the newsletter, please contact us by:

Email: secretary@haha-hungerford.org.uk

Post: HAHA Secretary, 17 Aldbourne Close, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 0SQ