

HAHA

Hungerford Allotment Holders Association

Fact Sheet

No 2

Getting started

Anyone who is 18 or over can apply for a plot at either the Fairfield or Marsh Lane sites. However as these sites are provided by Hungerford Town Council, priority will always be given to those applicants who live within the parish boundary.

The basic process for dealing with your request is:

- Your details are added to the bottom of the appropriate waiting list.
- When you reach the top of the waiting list, we offer you the next available plot.
- We will arrange a site visit for you if required and provide you with a copy of the tenancy agreement.
- You sign the tenancy agreement, indicate whether you want to join HAHA and pay the appropriate rental to HAHA.
- If you wish to join HAHA you will be provided with a membership card, membership numbers and a copy of the HAHA constitution.
- You take possession of your plot and start digging!

Waiting lists

The waiting list is divided into three priority groups:

1. **Hungerford Residents** (anyone living within the parish boundary).
2. **Hungerford Neighbours** (anyone living in neighbouring villages such as Froxfield or Chilton Foliat)
3. **Hungerford Connections** (anyone living elsewhere with a valid connection with the town).

When a plot becomes available it will be offered first to Hungerford Residents, then to Hungerford Neighbours and finally to people with a Hungerford connection.

Within each priority group, the person who has waited longest will be offered the plot first.

Contact Details

If you would like to apply for a plot, please write to HAHA's Membership Secretary.

Email:

membership@haha-hungerford.org.uk

Post:

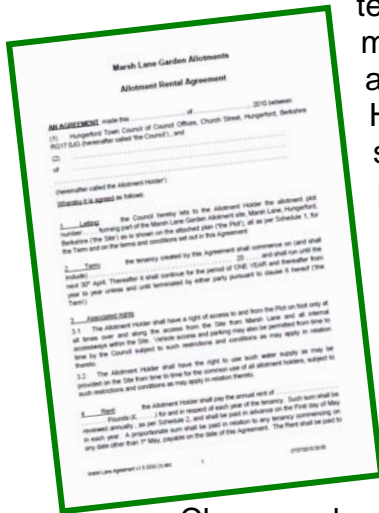
HAHA Membership Secretary,

3 Chapel Court
Hungerford
RG17 0HW



Tenancy agreement and rental

Before you can begin working your plot you must sign a tenancy agreement. Although HAHA manage the sites, your tenancy agreement is between yourself and Hungerford Town Council. When you sign, you are agreeing to look after your plot and abide by the conditions in the agreement.

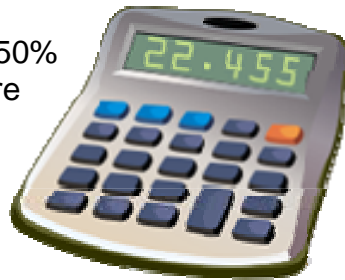


Your tenancy agreement will also state how much your plot rental will be per year. At present the rental is £12 per pole, per year. Payment is due on 1 April each year for Fairfields and 1 May each year for Marsh Lane.

Cheques should be made payable to the Hungerford Allotment Holders' Association (HAHA).

If the size of your plot cannot be measured in whole poles you would be asked to pay an equivalent proportion of the rental. For example a 2.5 pole plot would cost £30 (2 poles = £24 + 0.5 poles = £6).

Rental for the initial year reduces by 50% if you take possession of the plot more than 6 months into the rental year (1 October at Fairfields or 1 November at Marsh Lane). You will be charged a full years rent for subsequent years.



Failure to abide by the conditions in your tenancy agreement or non-payment of rent will result in you losing your plot.

Plot sharing and subletting

Hungerford Town Council stipulates that there should be a simple relationship between them and an individual plot holder. Therefore tenancy agreements can only be signed by an individual. However a spouse or partner living at the same address would be considered joint allotment holders.

Whilst you can informally share your plot with another family member or friend, you will be held responsible for paying the rent, maintaining the plot and for their actions or behaviour whilst on site. The person you are sharing with would not be entitled to join HAHA and would have no right to remain on the plot if you decided to give it up. For this reason we strongly advise people who wish to share to enter into separate tenancy agreements for two separate plots.

Subletting a plot to someone else would be a breach of your tenancy agreement and could result in you losing your plot.

Plot sizes

Allotment plots are traditionally measured in poles (also know as rods and perches). A pole measures approximately 5m² (or 16.5 feet squared). Plot sizes vary depending on the allotment site.

At Fairfields all plots measure 1 pole. However at Marsh Lane plots vary between 1 and 4 poles. The irregular shape of the Marsh Lane site is reflected in the shapes of some individual plots.

Community Plots

There are several plots currently being worked by formal groups at the Hungerford sites. We would welcome enquiries from any groups interested in sharing a community plot.

Current community plots include an after school gardening club from Hungerford Primary School who are based at the Fairfields site and the Hungerford Environmental Action Team (HEAT) who have several plots at Marsh Lane. HEAT welcomes any volunteers who would like to join them. For more information please visit their website:

<http://www.hungerford.uk.net/HEAT/>

Or email them at:
heat@hungerford.co.uk