

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

21 June 2021

Allotment Association

The following has been received from the Allotment Association:

Ivybridge Allotments Association committee wish to approach Ivybridge Town Council to seek guidance regarding who is eligible to go onto the waiting list, and subsequently hold an allotment, either at Filham or Park Street.

Apparently in the past the previous membership secretary (Paulette Furnival) was told by the council that PL21 was the criteria, so this is generally what has been used while deflecting the odd enquiry from Cornwood or Ermington..

We currently have a small number of residents from Lucerne Fields taking up plots (<5), but it has subsequently transpired that these households are actually in the parish of Ugborough. It is understood that they do not contribute a Council tax payment to ITC.

With the increased expansion of housing taking place on the east side of the town we wanted guidance as to whether the Town Council felt these residents were entitled to apply to go on the waiting list if their Council tax payments go to Ugborough, or another parish.

The IAA committee members have voiced their opinions and it is felt that it would be unfair for Ugborough parish residents to get a plot ahead of an Ivybridge resident, surely it should be down to Ugborough to provide allotment facilities for them?

However it would be a bit of a mine field having to sort out which actual PL21 post codes were not eligible on the east side of the town.

At present all plots are let and the waiting list is 25+.

We look forward to receiving your guidance.

Suzanne Flower

IAA chair

On behalf of the committee

There does not appear to be a statutory instrument on this subject and so it will be a policy decision.

The previous advice was given to the Association before the explosion of housing, particularly on the east side of the town.

Given the volume of new housing and the strain already placed on allotment availability, it is **recommended** that this Committee advises the Allotment

Association to adopt a policy to allocate allotments to Ivybridge Town Council residents only. Existing allotment holders should not be affected and the policy only applied for future applicants. The Town Hall will be able to support the secretary if there is a query over the resident's home parish.

Jonathan Parsons - Town Clerk