



Andover Town Council

To **consider** a request for an 8ft x 12ft shed at Barlow's Lane for communal use.

Item
No.
11

Produced for: Allotments Committee

By: Town Clerk.

Date of Report: 10 Jul 2024

Background:

Two tenants at Barlows Lane have approached the council with a view to setting up an association.

Following on from this, a request was made that the Council supply a shed *for storage of communal tools to help keep the shared parts of the allotment site tidy.*

A separate seating area was discussed for community use, but this was decided to be discussed at a later date.

The Town Clerk agreed to fund a shed similar to the ones at Mylen Road and Old Winton Road which are both from Robert Dyas. ([Value Pressure Treated Shed - 6ft x 8ft](#)) The Cost was expected to be less than £500 for the 6ft x 8ft version. This shed had been chosen for the other sites specifically to comply with the rules and regulations which specify:

3.6.2. Sheds and greenhouses should not have a floor area exceeding 4.5sq m. (8ft x 6ft).

The tenants from Barlows Lane were confident that the shed could be built by a group of volunteers made up of tenants, and it was suggested that the shed be sited on an unused area, that had previously been advised as unsuitable for parking. (Somewhere inside the red circled area below.)

Since the meeting with the Allotment Officer and Town Clerk, one of the tenants has received a quote for a shed, double the size, (8ft x 12ft):

- *12 by 8, ALL materials costed, including floor.*
- *It will be sectional, so if not used can be moved to another site.*
- *Can you stretch to £700?*

The Allotment Officer replied:

- We thought the purpose of the communal shed would be to store tools and perhaps some stackable chairs for people to use should they want to meet for a cuppa and a chat?
- Ideally, we do need to ensure it complies with the rules and regulations (8ft x 6ft).

It appears the tenants now want to use the shed for storage of mulch, compost, produce for swapping as well as holding meetings or to have tea/coffee under cover.

Proposals:

1. To **decide** on who will be able to use / access the shed.
2. To **decide** if council authorise the shed to be used for:
 - a. Storage of communal tools (available for all tenants to use)
 - b. Storage of communal tools (to be supervised and loaned out by the Warden or Wardens if other volunteers)

- c. Storage of seeds or onion sets/seed potatoes
- d. Storage of produce for swapping
- e. Storage of mulch / compost
- f. Holding of meetings of tenants

3. To **decide** on an appropriate size for the shed basis above decisions.

Considerations:

- Whether the Rules and Regulations need to be complied with, as this area is not a plot.
- Whether the shed size should be consistent with those provided at other sites.
- Good will towards tenants / volunteers / potential association members.
- Whether a container (like at The Drove) could fit on the site at a later date in addition to a tool shed.

Map of area where the shed could be sited.

