

Delabole Allotment Group

Each new season starts in January with the AGM when plot holders sign the annual tenancy agreement and pay their fees. We currently have a waiting list, but most years we tend to lose one or two for various reasons, giving way to new prospective tenants. People haven't tended to stay on the waiting list for more than a growing season. All new members pay a non-returnable £25 joining fee.

This year we updated the tenancy agreement, and as part of that we included new clauses and time limits in order to ensure that the site over all is kept well maintained, accessible and safe, that all costs to members are kept to a minimum and that all members are treated equally and fairly.

We try to be as green as we can with respect to both growing methods and resources. Plots are predominantly for growing food.

We have a communal polytunnel used primarily for cultivating seedlings in early spring, space is divided up between those who request it with priority given to those without a polytunnel of their own, and a communal shed for tool storage. Both require regular maintenance and repair.

The committee is made up of eight plot holders who meet at least quarterly or as matters arise. We arrange monthly working parties through the summer to keep communal areas and structures maintained and repaired, and to make improvements. Last year we started to work on increasing our rainwater collection capacity, and intend to continue with this over the next few months so that we don't rely too much on the mains water supply. This being particularly important as our summers get hotter and drier. We also plan to replace the fence that runs along the path leading from Penmead to the Playing Field. We have fundraising plans in place and are currently looking for grants to help towards achieving these improvements. Our income has historically been mainly from new members joining and our annual low-cost plot rent.