



## **New Tenancy Agreements—1st October 2020**

The new restrictions, voted by the Councillors on the 30th July 2020 have now come in to force. Please ensure you have read and understand what is and isn't allowed on the Brixham Town Council allotment sites.

## **Alternative to Bonfires**

Composting troublesome weeds can be easy. These weeds have large root systems, so absorb a lot of valuable nutrients from the soil. Use all this goodness by recycling it in the garden. Killing perennial weeds by composting takes 2 years. The roots must be starved of light so these plants will not be killed if they are added to a normal compost bin and left for only a year. Different methods need to be employed to make sure they don't get spread around the allotment.

**Drowning:** The quickest way to dispose of perennial weeds is to cram them in a bucket, roots and all. Fill the bucket with water and weigh down the weeds so they are under the surface. Cover the bucket and leave for 4 weeks. Strain off the liquid and use as a liquid feed—5 parts water to 1 part feed. Put the dead roots in the compost bin.

**Stewing:** A solution for the grass cutting season. Put the perennial weeds into a heavy duty plastic bag and mix in an equal quantity of fresh grass mowings. Tie up the neck of the bag and leave in a sunny spot. After 3 weeks the roots will have turned into slime and the whole lot can be safely added to your compost bin.

Horsetail, Bindweed and Lesser Celandine can be drowned or stewed but leave for 2 months.

## **Plant Protection: Biological Controls**

Things have changed in the gardening world since the days when there was a spray for everything and everything got sprayed. Biological controls are in many ways more effective than old-fashioned chemical treatments. Better for the environment as well since they target the pest not our friends the predators that eat them.

Over the forthcoming issues of the newsletter, look out for our detailed techniques on how to control weeds and pests on your allotment without using chemicals. Including; animal & rodent pest control, beneficial insects, insect pest control, slug & snail defence and weeding defence.

## **Bulk Green Waste collection**

Please keep checking our website, social media pages and allotment notice boards for more details about collections in October to help you dispose of your excess green waste. Our Lengthsmen will be on hand to help you dispose of your excess waste throughout the forthcoming months.

## **Allotment Inspections**

Our Lengthsmen have started and will continue to carry out regular inspections of the allotment sites throughout October.