



WROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Community Assets & Open Spaces

Item <#>

<Date>

Allotment Swap Shop

1.0 Introduction

The Allotments and Administration Officer has heard about the idea of an allotment swap shop from the National Allotment Society magazine. She believes that this would be a good initiative for the Moormead Road allotment site. It would involve allotment holders donating any excess seeds, seedlings, flowers fruit and vegetables to fellow plot holders at a designated station. If another plot holder were to take something they could (if they can) replace it with something from their own plot – so therefore it will be appropriately named **‘The Swap Shop’**.

Any donations can be posted onto the Wroughton Allotments Facebook page to make the allotment community aware. The Swap Shop will be a station consisting of some covered weatherproof durable wooden shelving on a concrete base.

2.0 Report Details

- 2.1 There is an allotment Facebook Page which is well used by the allotment community and could be used in conjunction with the swap shop.
- 2.2 Allotment holders often produce surplus produce and this is a useful way to reduce wastage.
- 2.3 It will help members of the allotment community engage with each other and the allotment holders could even use it as a meeting point
- 2.4 It would be secured and bolted to a concrete base to give it longevity
- 2.5 It will be made clear to plot holders that if items are not removed they should remove item(s) after 72 hours to avoid them rotting. Members of the Allotment Working Party have also agreed to monitor the station in terms of maintenance and remove any discarded items.
- 2.6 The members of the allotment working party agreed at recent meeting that this would be a nice thing to implement and would encourage communal gathering.
- 2.7 The Swap Shop would be placed in a prominent position next to the noticeboard at the start of the main central track on the allotment site.

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3.0 Recommendations

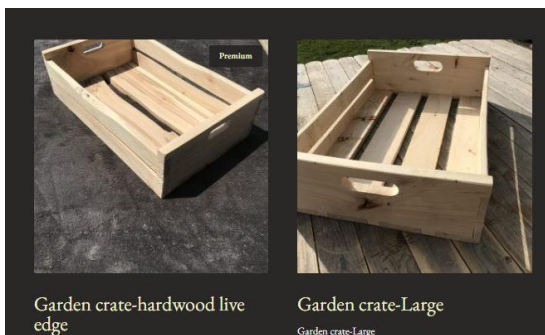
3.1 To purchase the vegetable crates, signage and shelving unit from TreeBitz
www.treebitz.co.uk This is a local business which uses wooden offcuts derived from its sister tree surgery business to make quality handcrafted products. This option would mean it would come from a low carbon footprint and sustainable source.

3.2 The cost of £385 would be met from the **General Reserves** budget.
 In addition there is an additional cost of £100 (approx.) which would cover the cost of building the base which would include purchasing the following materials:

- Wood for the frame
- 2 bags of cement
- Half a ton of ballast



The swap station would be based on this model:
 Churnet Valley Garden Furniture 4ft x 4ft Log.
 This was from a high street retailer however the handmade one will be made from much better quality and more durable wood.



Example of garden crates from TreeBitz



Example of laser signage from TreeBitz