

Revised sheds policy: draft 2

The current shed rule states:

Sheds and greenhouses Members must get the Committee's approval of size, material and siting of sheds or greenhouses before erecting them.

Proposed new rule:

Sheds, greenhouses, fruit cages and other structures Members may erect sheds or any other structures up to the size 7ft by 5ft or the metric equivalent. Anyone wishing to erect something larger must apply in writing to the Committee. They will be invited to present their case to the Committee when it next meets. Sheds or greenhouses should not be erected less than 18 inches from a communal path in order to allow room for machinery to be operated on the paths. Sheds should be used solely for storing materials for use on the allotment.

Proposed new guidance:

The Committee offers the following guidance to members on the erection of sheds, greenhouses and other structures:

1. Members considering erecting any structure on their plot are asked to consult their neighbours on the site and be prepared to compromise about the size and location of any structure.
2. Advice about the types of shed available and their suppliers can be found on the Association web site. The committee will seek to negotiate discounts for members from one or more suppliers.
3. Where a full plot is sub-divided into two smaller plots, only one shed may be erected on the full-plot area; it is suggested that this could be shared between the two plot-holders.
4. Members might generally like to consider shed-sharing with their plot neighbours in order to share the costs and reduce the amount of land used for the purpose. The Committee will look favourably at requests for permission to build sheds larger than 7ft by 5ft where they are to be shared.
5. Members considering where on their plot to erect a shed might like to consider doing so on the highest point of the plot, thus reducing the risk of flood damage to their shed and its contents. For the same reason, placing sheds on sleepers or other supports makes sense.
6. Members should be aware that there is a history of sheds being broken into on the site. It is not advisable, therefore, to store valuable tools or other items of value in wooden sheds.
7. Members considering erecting greenhouses on their plot should be aware that such structures have invited vandalism in the past.
8. Members thinking about safeguarding soft fruit from birds and other crops from animals will find advice on the Association web site. This advice deals with the

threats and how to deal with them, such as fruit cages, netting, rabbit-proofing and so on. Putting a cage over an entire plot is neither acceptable nor necessary, however. Plot-holders seeking to erect a fruit-cage larger than 7ft by 5ft should seek the approval of the committee in writing.

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