

Agenda Item 8 Plot Edging

CG 9.3.26

- (i) To consider where BSTC will continue to provide replacement plot edging to plot holders.

Know how the matter relates to the Neighbourhood Plan or the remit of BSTC

The provision and maintenance of facilities within CG falls within the remit and responsibilities of the Town Council as part of its management of community spaces and assets. Ensuring that these areas are maintained in a safe, respectful and sustainable manner supports the Council's responsibility for the upkeep of CG and the appropriate use of council resources. While this matter may not be directly referenced in the Neighbourhood Plan, it relates to the wider stewardship and maintenance of community assets.

The substance of the matter

BSTC currently provides replacement wooden plot edging (wood surrounds) within CG free of charge.

Expenditure

2026 – £330.00 YTD

2025 - £72.00

2024 - £1292.00

2023 - £1017.00

A discussion is therefore required to determine whether the Town Council should continue to provide replacement plot edging free of charge, or whether a revised approach should be adopted.

Possible options for consideration include:

- Continuing to provide replacement wood surrounds free of charge.
- Ceasing the provision of wooden surrounds and requiring plot holders to arrange replacements privately (subject to CG regulations).
- Ceasing the provision of wooden surrounds and allow plot holder to take a decision on this

Clarity about what the Council is being asked to decide: Proposed Motion

That the Council discusses and determines whether BSTC should continue to provide replacement wooden plot edging within CG free of charge, or whether a revised policy should be introduced, including the option of introducing a charge or ceasing the provision of replacements.

Recommendation: to cease the provision of plot edging to plot holders to be reviewed in 24 months

Agenda Item 9 Water Scarcity

CG 9.3.26

- (i) To consider whether turning on the allotment water at a later date is feasible (when water butts have been fully utilised). Metered water used in 2026 was double that of 2025.

Any cost, financial or staff time, to the council

Water costs increased by over 50% during 2025. This is recharged to allotment users.

This will only increase further as water scarcity unfolds across the South West.

Any risk to the Council, current or future

Current there is minimal risk beyond increased costs for water to run the allotments.