

Allotments Survey

Final survey results

This report sets out the results of a final survey among allotment holders in Menheniot taken in December 2017 to determine which improvements tenants would prefer.

This report has been prepared by John Hesketh
January 2018

Background

In October 2017, the parish council undertook a survey to gauge the level of interest among allotment holders for additional facilities to be made available to them.

Results of the survey were published in December 2017 and identified that tenants expressed interest in the council providing a permanent extra water supply, an occasional skip for the disposal of garden waste and provision for pruning trees that bordered on the allotment site.

Allotment holders were then surveyed for a final time to determine what specific services they would most like to see and what level of rental increase would be affordable.

Headlines

At the close of the second survey on 22 December 2017, the council had received replies from tenants representing 16 plots. This was equivalent to 100% of the plot holders who had taken part in the original survey.

Most of the people who completed this survey showed a clear preference for an additional water supply that would include a 60 gallon holding tank that would be funded by a one-off payment of £10 that would be included in their annual rent due in January 2018.

Next steps

The parish council will discuss this report at its next meeting on 18 January 2018 and decide if they accept the findings and what action to take next.

Option 1

Water supply

Accept or reject the majority opinion to install an extra water supply in the allotment.

Option 2

Water supply

Accept or reject the majority opinion to purchase a 60 gallon capacity holding trough.

Option 3

Funding

Accept or reject a proposal to levy a one-off payment of £10 in addition to the annual plot rental of £12.

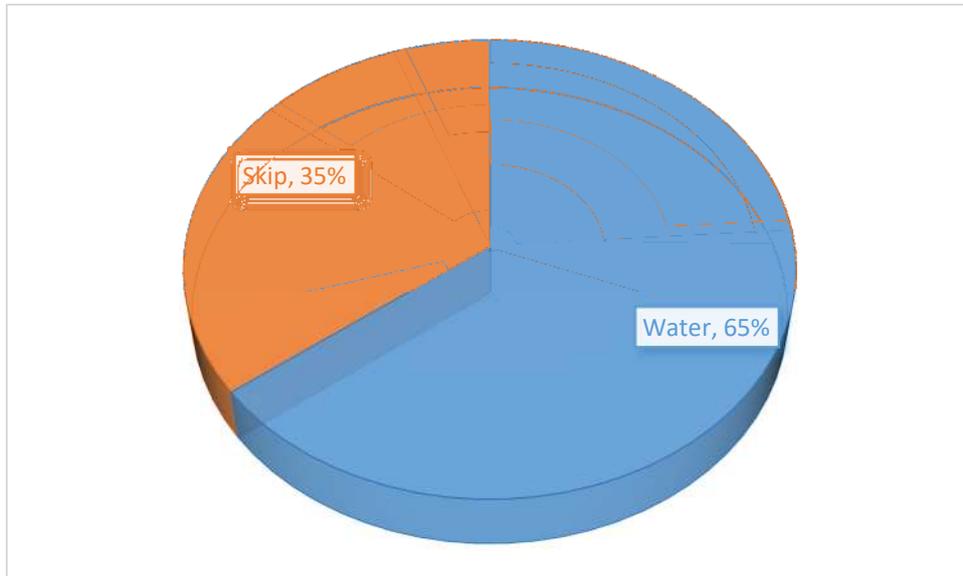
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Please choose one of the following options: water supply and/or trailer for garden waste.

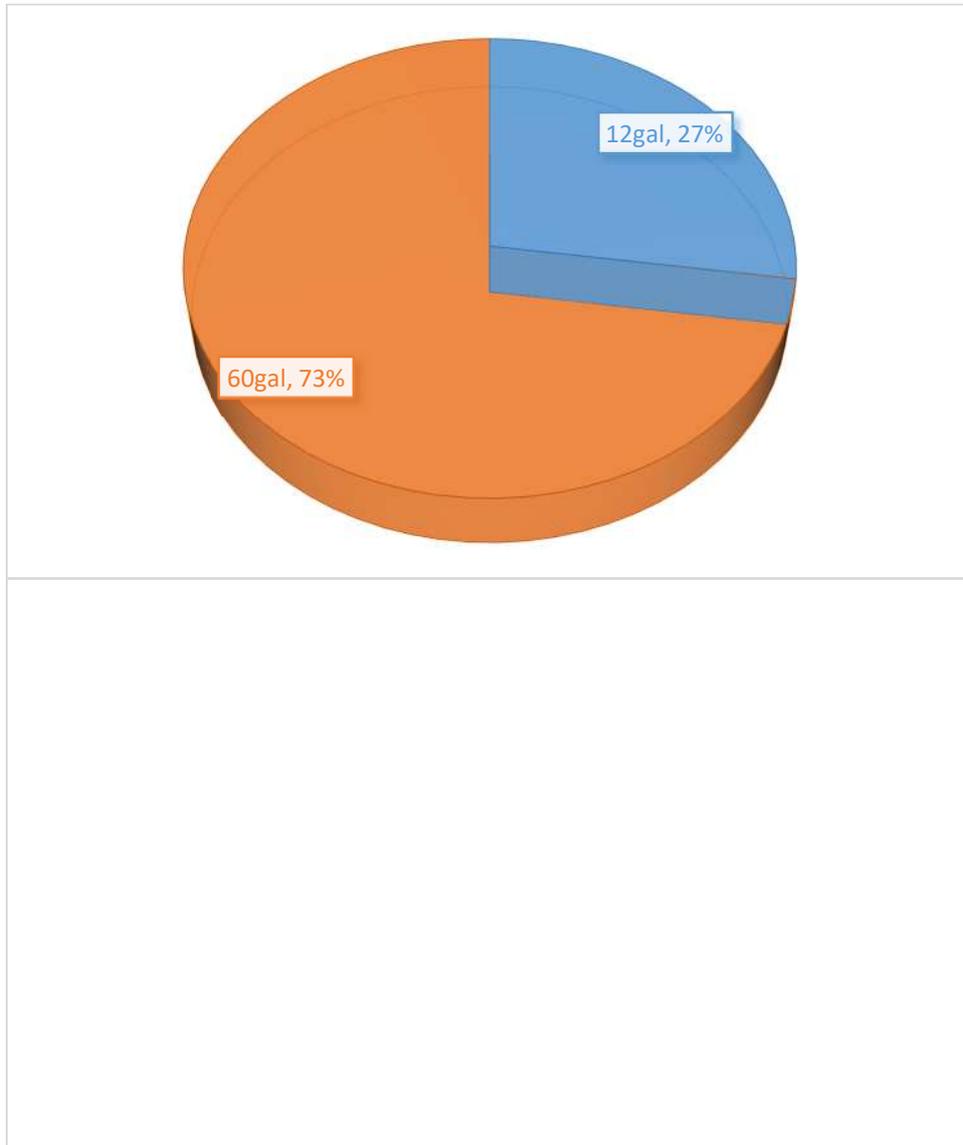
The most popular choice for all respondents (65%) was for the council to install an extra water supply at the top end of the allotments.

The second choice was for a skip to be installed once or twice a year for the disposal of garden waste. This was chosen by 35% of people replying.



Do you want a water supply with either 12gal trough or 60gal trough? The additional one-off charge for this would be either £8 or £10 respectively, and payable in January 2018.

Of those people requesting an extra water supply, the majority (73%) preferred to have a larger trough installed by the water outlet and would make one off extra payment of £10 in addition to their annual rental



Comment	Response
<p>Better access to the site with a wheelbarrow would be beneficial for all. Just a path with hard standing/gravel would make it easier to bring compost from the road to the plots.</p>	<p>Your suggestion came in too late to be included in the first survey we carried out in October 2017 otherwise we could have included it in the consultation. However, the council can look to the cost of making this improvement and may be able to fund it from any small surplus it might have after the water installation has been completed.</p>
<p>Where would the additional water supply be situated? If it is going to be 'almost' the same distance, then it would make very little difference to me.</p>	<p>We will consult with plot holders before making a final decision as to final location.</p>
<p>The current water supply is adequate for use and I only use it during the spring to water seedlings in, other than that what is there is nice to have available should I need it. I cannot see the need for additional supplies within the allotments.</p>	<p>The parish council has responded to requests from plot holders for improvements to be made to the allotments. In our survey, the majority choice was for an extra water supply that would be funded by a one-off payment. This will potentially benefit all current plot holders and any new ones taking up fresh tenancies.</p>
<p>Not interested in paying a one off payment of either £8 or £10 for a water supply. Although I am not close to the water trough, (not quite the furthest away but close), I have my own source on the allotment - bath and tanks.</p>	<p>Please see the answer above.</p>
<p>Would it not be an idea to ask Rob Craig to neaten the hedging up as a one off on the boundary? You are asking for a lot of money to put another water source on the allotments would not money be better spent in tidying the hedges?</p>	<p>Any expenditure made on the allotments has to be funded by income from the plot holders. The option to charge extra to neaten the hedging was the least popular choice in our first survey.</p> <p>People responding to the survey have made their wishes clear by asking for an additional water supply. The cost of installing the water supply was arrived at by asking two companies to quote for the work: the recommendation is that councillors accept the lower quote.</p>

Technical

Survey open from 17 November 2017 until 22 December 2017.

16 responses were received. There were 16 responses made to the previous survey so this means that 100% of those engaging in the consultation have made a reply. Although the survey was made anonymously, where respondents were known to rent more than one plot and had given their name, all their answers were included to reflect all the plots rented.

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