

The

HARTHILL

Plot

Mellow fruitfulness special

October 2024

AS EVER...

- *Park carefully
- *Secure ponds
- *Don't cut into paths
- *Keep paths clear of branches, brambles, stones etc.

PRUNING, FIRES AND A SAD LOSS

Yes it's that season of mists and mellow fruitfulness again, and I have to continue my decade long practice of repeating this line, beloved of newspaper editors everywhere. Keats, I believe. Anyway, much to be done, an AGM to be held and not long before we can light fires again. So here goes.

If you're doing any **autumn/winter pruning** and haven't got suitable equipment you can borrow some from the Association – have a word with a committee member on site or email us.

Alas poor Damson - this news has been a long time coming, but the big communal damson tree has reached the end of its natural life and will have to be cut down soon to ensure safety. It's liable to fall over in a wind, never mind Hurricane Milton.

The Council's ban on **fires on site** is lifted from 1 November until 15 March 2025. Still not clear to me why we should be blamed for the shortcomings of other sites – feels like collective punishment – but we do need to stick to the rules. Please **ONLY** burn dry materials, so no plastics, tyres, painted wood etc. All hazardous. And please attend fires at all times, it's surprising how quickly unattended embers can burst into life and spread like - er, well – wildfire.

We anticipate there will be a **rent increase for next year** unless Rachel Reeves includes it in the budget. Still a bargain though.

If you're going to **quit your plot**, please let us know as soon as possible – we have a long, closed, waiting list.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Saturday 23 November 2024

The AGM of the Association will be held on the above date at 10 am in the hut on site. Followed by a group help day, coffee and cakes. The agenda, minutes, accounts etc will be online at harthillallotments.org.uk. Additional items must be submitted by 9 November. If you want to stand for the committee (go on, you know you want to) you can do so at the meeting. Only six meetings a year, all by zoom. No excuse really, is there?