Allotment Security and Incidents

Alan Moss Road Phase 1 (Left HS)

Fencing- 2.4m high Chain-link fencing around most of site. Chain-link installed in 1986 when allotments were built. Very poor condition- CBC/residents making patch repairs every time someone cuts through chain link. Approx. 220 metres of new fencing needed to replace old chain-link.

Gates- x 1 gate made of mesh metal in average condition. Would be easy to cut through mesh with pair of pliers, although this has never occurred.



Padlock- Cheap PEF 11 Lock

Break Ins- Numerous break in's over the past few years, thieves have got in by cutting through old chain link along public right of way running next to allotment.

Alan Moss Road Phase 2 (Right HS)

Fencing- Old chain-link round most of site along with fencing from nursey next door. Chain-link is in OK condition. Also, 20 metres of good quality metal palisade fencing running along front of site, connected to gate- installed by a plot holder using his money approx. 6/7 years ago. Gates- x 1 gate in good condition. Metal mesh reinforced with welded panels of palisade fencing. Paid for by plot holder approx. 6/7 years ago.



Padlock- Good quality metal, reinforced, high shouldered padlock.

Break Ins- x 2 break ins reported over the last year. Once the thieves sawed through the old cheap PEF 11 padlock to access site. Numerous sheds etc broken into and equipment stolen. Replaced padlock to a stronger one after this. New padlock is high shouldered so thieves wouldn't be able to saw through it.

Beacon Road

Fencing- Most of site bordered by good quality Paladin fencing and residents fencing. Approx. 75 metres of old chain link fencing which needs replacing.

Gates- x 1 good quality metal palisade pedestrian gate and x 1 old metal mesh rusting double gate as shown below. Still in good working condition but would be

easy to cut through mesh using pliers.



Padlock- Cheap PEF 9 padlock.

Break Ins- A couple of calls about peoples crops going missing but there is a badger set somewhere close and other plot holders have complained about badgers stealing their crops.

Castledine St Ext.

Fencing- North and South side of site is fenced- responsibility of properties next door. West side of site which backs onto cricket pitch is 6-foot-high Palisade security fencing- excellent condition. East of site has x 2 gates and old chain link fencing growing within hedge. Chain link very poor condition and ¼ of hedge very thin- would be quite easy to get through. Approx. 16 metres of fencing needed.

Gates- x 2 gates. One is a single pedestrian gate made of wood and in bad condition. One is a double vehicular access gate made of metal- good condition.



Padlock- Cheap PEF 9 padlock.

Break Ins- None reported.

Great Central Road

Fencing- North and South sides of site have good quality 2m Paladin fencing installed alongside hawthorn hedging. Plot holders have seen children jumping over fencing though. The East side of site is very exposed, there is very old chain- link fencing alongside very thin hawthorn hedge. Numerous incidents where thieves have stepped through the gaps in the hedge and cut through the chain link to steal from the allotments. The chain link is then patch repaired by plot holders or Idverde. Please see example of thin hedge below with patch repairs on the chain link behind. To replace all current old chain-link fencing, we would need approx. 100 metres of new fencing.



Gates- 3 gates. x 1 metal single pedestrian gate in good working condition. x 1 double gate- good working order. x 1 double gate only used by Idverde to cut the grass- good working order. Each gate has an additional 30cm of mesh metal on top covered with anti-vandal paint. Photo of main double gate below.

Padlock- Good quality armoured, hardened padlock with inserted shackle which means it can't be cut open. These padlocks will soon be replaced with good quality combination padlocks.

Break Ins- Numerous break ins reported over the last 3 years. Some reports of teenagers walking around the allotment, then jumping back over fence when confronted. Numerous reports of thieves and vandals cutting through chain-link fencing on East side of site to steal from sheds etc over last 3 years. Numerous other reports of plot holders saying their crops have been taken.

Ingle Pingle

Fencing- There is a strange mix of new paladin fencing, old chain link fencing and no fencing at all on this site. The front of the site (alongside public right of way) is mostly old chain-link situated behind thin hawthorn hedge. Please see example below. We've only had 1 report of thieves getting into allotment by cutting through this chain-link fence. Would need approx. 160 metres of new fencing to replace the chain-link which is in poor condition.



Gates- High quality metal double gates at both entrances into allotments. Gates installed in 2015. See photo of one entrance below.



Padlock- Barrel lock integrated into gates, therefore the locks can't be broken but the keys cannot be changed unless the barrels are changed.

Break Ins- 2 break ins reported over the last year. One was someone not locking gates properly.

Lodge Farm

Fencing- All exposed boundaries have old chain link fencing installed which is in poor condition. All other boundaries have residents fencing installed. When break ins occur, it is usually due to the chain link being cut and thieves accessing the site this way. No hedging alongside chain link, thieves just have to get over the small stream to get to the fence. Would need approx. 200 metres of new fencing to replace the chain-link which is in poor condition.

Gates- x 1 single metal mesh gate. Good working order although showing signs of rust. x 1 double metal mesh gate. Good working order although showing signs of rust.



Padlock- Good quality combination padlocks.

Break Ins- Numerous break ins reported over last 3 years. We get a lot of complaints from plot holders about other plot holders leaving the gates open, so I suspect some thefts have been because of this this. 'STOP Please close the gate' signs have been installed. I've had approx. 5 incidents of thieves cutting through the chain link fencing over the last 3 years- all holes have been patch repaired.

Meadow Avenue

Fencing- Most of site is surrounded by resident fencing and a large brick wall to rear of site. The front of site has good quality palisade fencing at approx. 2 metres high with spiked top.

Gates- Good quality metal palisade style gate.



Padlock- cheap PEF 9 padlock.

Break Ins- 3 reports of thefts from site over the last year. Only crops went missing and no sign of damage to the padlock/ gates or fencing, so not sure if another plot holder stealing from plots or animals. Signs put up to say anyone caught stealing will be reported to the Police. Not had any incidents since.

Mountfields

Fencing- Apart from resident fencing, most of site has old 5-foot-high chain link fencing which is in a poor condition, alongside Hawthorn hedge which is very thin in places. Please see example below. Would need approx. 300 metres of new fencing to replace the chain-link which is in poor condition.



Gates- x 1 double metal mesh gate- in working order but showing signs of rust. x 1 single gate, high quality metal one installed 2 years ago. Double gate shown below.



Padlock- Good quality Squire padlocks on both gates.

Break Ins- Numerous break ins over the past 2 years as well as an incident a couple of weeks ago where a big hole was cut in the chain link fencing, but no one reported any thefts to me. Hole will be repaired by Idverde.

Park Farm

Fencing- Paladin fencing in good condition around part of allotment which backs onto the golf course. Chain-link fencing along footpath (west side of allotment) alongside hawthorn hedge which is very thin in parts. Would need approx. 130 metres of new fencing to replace the chain-link which is in poor condition.

Gates- x 1 Good quality mesh metal double gate. We have a lot of problems with it dropping and grinding against other side but this is nothing to do with security.



Padlock- Cheap PEF 7 padlock.

Break Ins- Numerous break ins over past 3 years. Most have occurred because thieves are stepping through gaps in the hawthorn hedge, then cutting through the chain-link fencing and entering site. 3 reports of this in January 2019 alone. We once had a thief cut through the paladin fencing using tools to access site. The whole fence panel needed replacing.