

# ALDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

<b>Council Document</b> To review various requests from allotment holders for polytunnels on their plots as per clause 9 of the allotment agreement.	<b>AGENDA item 9</b> Open Spaces Committee Meeting 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2021
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## Background

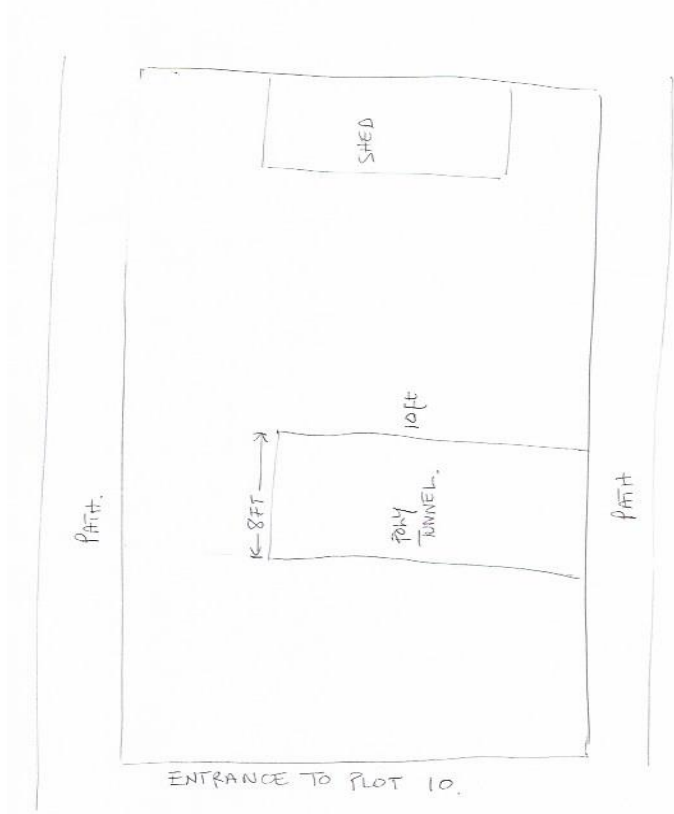
The tenancy agreement between Aldenham Parish Council (APC) and allotment holders' states under clause 9 that before any structure can be placed on allotment (shed/polytunnel etc) permission must be given by APC. The Open Spaces officer has discretion to give permission up to 7ft X 5ft structure anything else must come to the committee to agree.

The Open Spaces officer has received the following requests from allotment holders to erect polytunnels on their allotment plots. All the applications exceed the OS officers' guidelines.

## Plot 10 - e-mail request, plan and picture below.

I am writing to ask permission to erect a poly-tunnel on plot 10 at the Radlett allotment.

I would like to erect a standard size & type plastic poly-tunnel (8ft x 10ft) that would be positioned 1/3 of the way down the plot from the front border and would be in alignment with the neighboring allotment holders tree on one side and path/compost bin on the other side so as not to create any shade on their actual growing space.



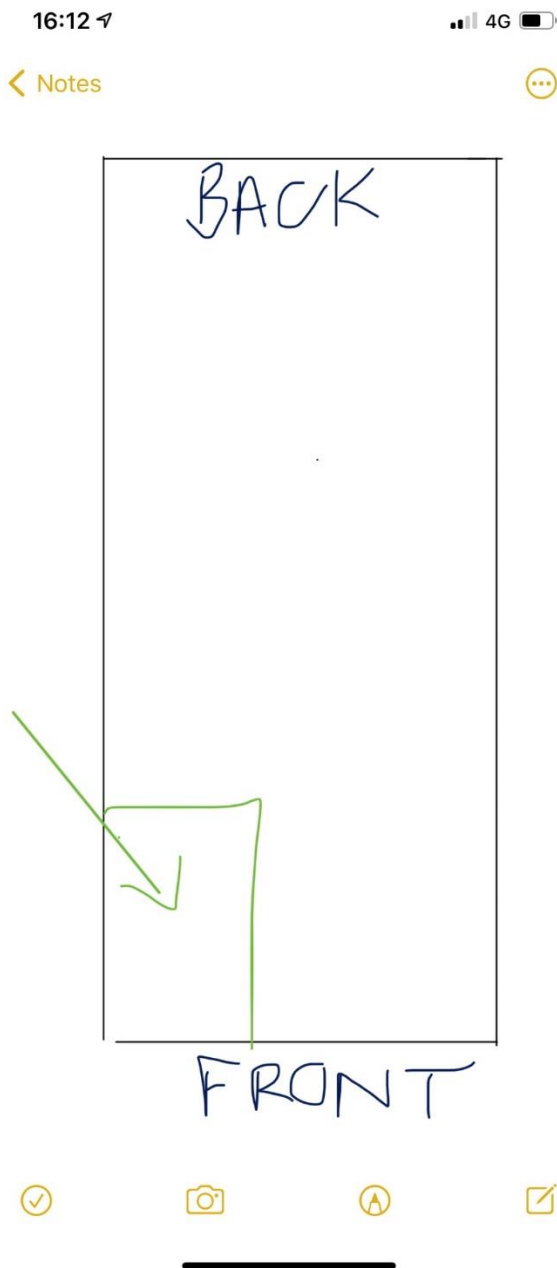
## Recommendation

**This request is granted** -- The tenant has been in situ since July 2019 and has cultivated the plot in line with requirements. Approval for the shed, also shown on the plan, was granted in April 2020.

Plot 50L -- e-mail request, plan and picture below.

I wrote to you a short while back to ask for permission to erect a small shed, I have now changed my mind about this as I would rather have a polytunnel to grow lots of tomatoes :) my plot neighbour has inspired me with his, although mine wouldn't be anywhere near as big.

So can I please write to you to ask for permission for a polytunnel size 10ft x 15ft (3m x 4.5m) and I will attach a picture of where on the plot I would like it. Also the height of it is 2metre. The picture is not very good but it shows that it will be at the front of the plot in the left hand corner closes to the end where the path is as you enter the plot. And I have drawn the proposed polytunnel in green.



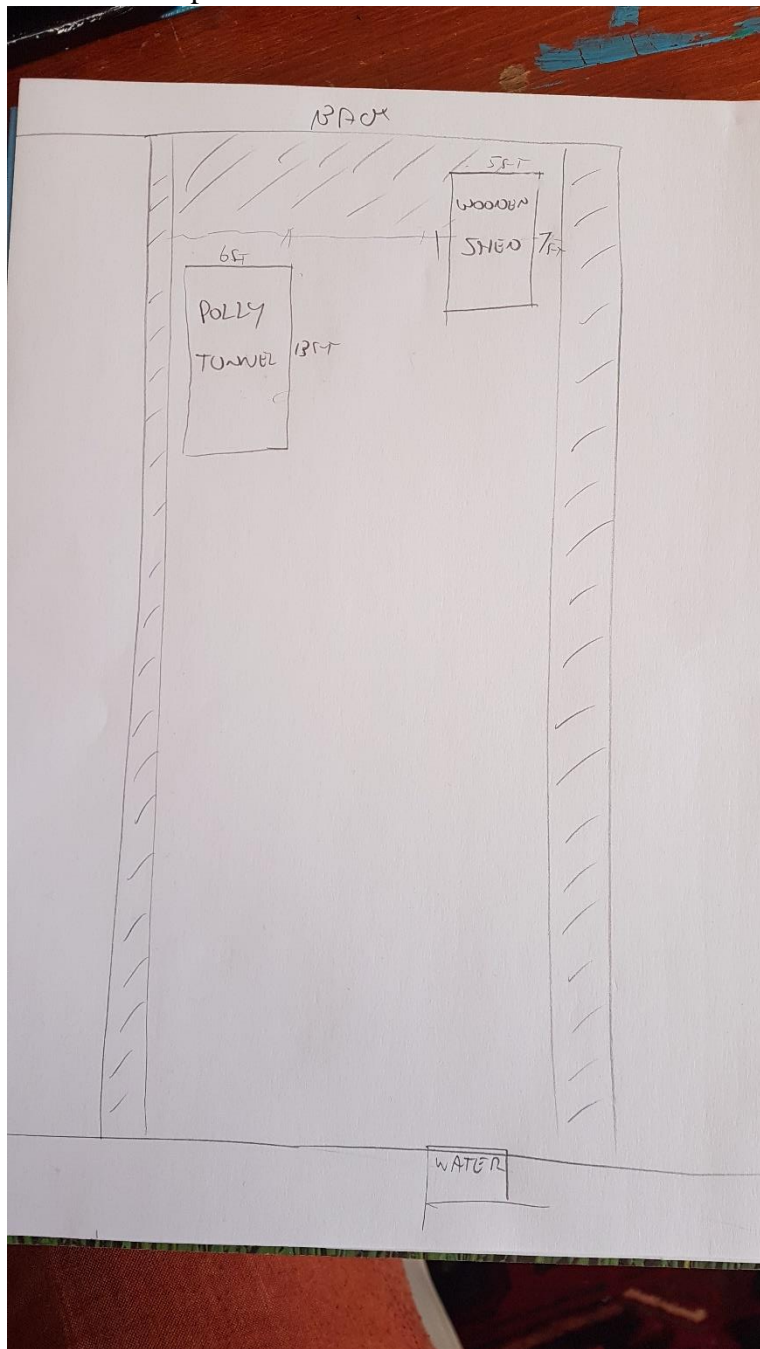
I would be so grateful if you can let me know as soon as possible as I will need to order it and prepare the ground ready for the tunnel.

Recommendation

**This request is granted** -- The plot seems as though it is being cultivated.

## Plot 61

Here is the plan for the shed and polly tunnel. We decided to apply for both so we can put either up in the future. also attached some pictures. We would use either the wooden shed or metal shed (but not both) and the polly tunnel/green house. Polly tunnel 6ft x 13ft. The height of the Polly tunnel is 6ft 7 inches to the apex.

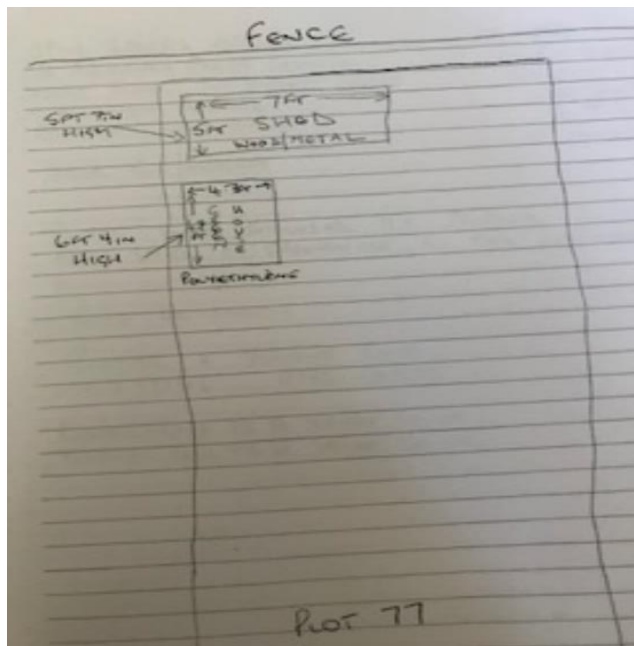


### Recommendation

The application for the polytunnel in respect of plot 61 (the shed was approved in line with allotment procedures) was considered at the Open Spaces committee in February 2021 when it was resolved that 'the application is declined until cultivation of the plot is established'. From the picture there appears to be little cultivation and no shed.

## Plot 77

This was enclosed in a letter that stated I wish to apply for a shed and polytunnel.



## Recommendation

There are some signs of structures being built.

## Plot 5 further details and plan requested.

The tenant has been in situ since May 2019. An initial request to erect a polytunnel has recently been received for which we are awaiting full details including the height and construction materials and plan of the position of the proposed polytunnel. A photograph of the plot is attached.

I would like to place a 2m x 3m\* \*6.5ft X 9.8ft long polytunnel on my allotment. Is this request sufficient? Otherwise, what do you require please. I do not have a greenhouse



This plot has 3 unauthorised raised beds as shown in the photo and on the rear of the plot in a netted area covering approximately 25% of the area of the plot are a minimum of 12 recently planted trees.

**Recommendation** -- This request should be considered in line with raised beds (not authorised) and trees planted on 25% of the plot (declined by APC in October 2020 and subsequently planted without advising the council following the change in requirements in February 2021)

**Alternative options**

- To request that all polytunnels are erected close to the rear of the plot
- To approve smaller structures
- To await further cultivation before approval is granted
- To refuse approval

**Financial Implications**

Costs of disposal and OST time if the structures are left when the tenants return the plots.

**Risk Management Implications**

None

Members are asked to consider this report.

Wendy McLean,  
Open Spaces Officer