



Shipley
Town Council

ALLOTMENT BONFIRE POLICY

Tenants should compost rather than burn. This is much better for the environment. Almost any non-woody plant, including many weeds, can be composted; provided that the compost generates sufficient heat. Pernicious weeds such as Japanese Knotweed and plants infected with fungal diseases like Club Root, Downy Mildew or White Rot should be burnt (when dry) or taken to an approved recycling centre.

1. No bonfires are permitted between 1 April to 30 September, unless specific reasons are agreed with the Town Council.
2. From 1 October to 31 March, bonfires are permissible on Saturday after 12 noon (midday). They must not be started before 12 noon (midday) and must be extinguished, if not burnt out, by dusk or before leaving the site.
3. Bonfires may only be lit when suitable weather conditions permit (wind drift etc.) to avoid causing a nuisance to local residents, traffic and the railway. Under the Highways (Amendment) Act 1986 anyone lighting a fire and allowing smoke to drift across the road faces a fine of up to £2000 if it endangers traffic.
4. Prior to lighting a bonfire any materials stored must be moved to a new location in order to ensure that any animals within may escape.
5. No material other than organic matter such as wood, prunings and dry vegetable matter produced on a tenant's plot is to be burnt on site. Non-vegetable matter such as plastic, rubber, roofing felt or bitumen, carpet, etc. shall not be burnt. Flammable liquids such as old sump oil shall not be burnt or used to light fires.
6. Tenants should only burn on their own plot and should not light fires for others.
7. In the event of a reasonable complaint to the plot holder from another tenant, or a member of the public, with regard to a nuisance being caused the bonfire must be extinguished immediately.
8. Any violation of times or conditions may lead to termination of tenancy. The Council will not accept liability for any loss, damage or nuisance caused to other plots or adjacent land, nor any injury caused by bonfires. Any such loss, damage, nuisance or injury caused will be regarded as the responsibility of the person lighting the fire.