

Meole Brace Garden and Allotment Club (MBG&AC)

Policy on Waste Material

This policy was adopted 1st November 2021

Section 4.4 of the MBG&AC Rules for Allotment Holders deals with the disposal and removal of waste material in relation to the holding of an allotment. It states:

4.4 Disposal and Removal – members must:

4.4.1 keep fences and hedges **clear of rubbish**.

4.4.2 **not dump** of stones, rubble or rubbish anywhere

- on the allotment site
- on the public highway
- on network rail property.

If members trespass on the railway embankment or railway line they are liable to prosecution by Network Rail and the Club will not be held responsible for their actions.

4.4.3 **not remove** or cause to be removed **any soil** from the site, without obtaining permission from the Committee.

4.4.4 **not have bonfires**

4.4.5 not put **stone, excessive soil or solid material in** green waste '**wheelie**' bins or overfill them so that they are difficult to move

This policy is intended to amplify and clarify section 4.4 and to provide guidelines for the enforcement of these rules.

1. The key message that the MBG&AC would like to give to plot holders is that where possible any material that can be composted in a 'domestic' (ie non large scale or commercial) manner should be composted by the plot holder and the output applied to the holder's plot to improve and condition the soil.
2. Plot holders are allowed to import compostable material from home or other sources including that resulting from a commercial activity (see Policy on Commercial Activity). However animal manure may only be brought in from an accredited source. Compostable material includes green material and non shiny cardboard and other suitable biodegradable materials.
3. Plot holders must make a judgement for themselves on the attempted composting of pernicious weeds or woody material. If in doubt they should consult the Allotment Secretary
4. Every effort should be made to deter or prevent rats gaining access to compost bins. To this end the composting of waste cooked food should be avoided and wire netting should be placed under plastic compost bins with lids and under and around wooden compost structures.
5. Surplus soil attached to growth that is put into the green wheelie bins should be shaken off on the holders plot before it is taken to, and put into, the green wheelie bins
6. The Green Wheelie bins on each site must remain in their normal storage position unless they are being put out on collection day. Plot holders must take their non compostable waste to the bins and not take any wheelie bin to their plot.

As with other areas covered in the Rules, the Allotment Secretary is expected to exercise his/her authority and discretion in enforcing them, using, where available, additional policy guidelines such as the ones set out above.

The Allotment Secretary, with recourse to the Committee if necessary, will apply the disciplinary procedures to members concerning waste material issues as described in section 6 of the MBG&AC Rules for Allotment Holders