

## **Request for 2<sup>nd</sup> Allotment at Courtlands Site**

### **Appendix 7**

We have received the following request from a new allotment holder at the Courtlands site. The policy states that only one allotment per household is permitted, however, due to the circumstances explained below WTC may wish to consider this request to add to the waiting list as all allotments have now been allocated.

***'My youngest son has asked me to ask WTC if there might be an unallocated allotment on the same site? If so, would the Town Council be willing to permit him to have one. He is autistic and although I explained to him that I understood only one allotment is allowed per household, he still wanted me to ask please.***

***He has had formal training in gardening, as he trained through Cannington College Learning Disability Unit. He also worked in the Cannington Walled Garden, whilst a student, but unfortunately, he has not been able to secure employment. Employers do not seem to want to risk employing people with disabilities, even though he has no physical needs.***

***He would really benefit from having his own plot, as it would do so much for his self-esteem. I am sure he will be involved in managing my allotment however, it would be so rewarding for him to set up and manage his own. He is registered disabled because of his autism and learning disability.***

***I thought I would ask, as I know Watchet is an 'all inclusive' community, and vegetable gardening is Reuben's passion. He is 34 years old, very strong, and needs a physical activity for his own mental health and wellbeing. Otherwise, he tends to sit around indoors or on his computer!***

***If this is something WTC cannot consider, would they know of any small plot we could rent, or purchase (depending on price).***

***Thank you anyway for your consideration regardless of the outcome.***

#### **Recommendation**

Members to discuss and approve the residents request for a 2<sup>nd</sup> allotment at the Courtlands Allotment Site.