

Services Report

Love Lane Allotments

Wem Town Council currently has 66 allotments located at Love Lane for the residents of Wem.

Currently all allotments are let, with 5 new tenants since April 2026 and a waiting list of 7 people.

This year we have had 2 formal inspections to date. Our last formal Inspection was in July 2026. Cllr Paul Johnson accompanies an officer on inspections. Our next inspection is due in October 2026.

In the event a plot is not being maintained and is considered to be in breach of the tenancy agreement a letter is sent to the tenant requesting improvement unless there are mitigating circumstances such as poor health. Following July's inspection we have sent 3 improvement notices to plots which we are monitoring for improvement and issued 1 notice to quit.

We have updated our inspection sheet to include checking the tenants of plots which back onto adjoining properties are pruning trees and shrubs and ensuring that ivy is removed. Tenants who have these plots have also been asked to move sheds and greenhouses to enable easier access to keep the wall clear.

Allotment rent to date is £2,289

Asbestos

We have had an asbestos roof and compost bin removed , making the allotment free from asbestos.

Allotment Community

A number of new tenants, seem keen and proactive, working on their plots and getting to know the well-established tenants. There is a thriving community at Love Lane and some great networking among the tenants, which supports health and wellbeing.

Whilst it has been a very dry and hot summer the allotment holders have had an abundance of produce to harvest.

We had a seed swap, meet your neighbour at the end of April in the car park at the allotments.

Love Lane Cemetery

Wem Town Council managed and attended 7 burials from April 2026 to date. Six of these were new graves, one was a second burial. Of these, one was out of parish.

We will soon start to use row 27 which is located after the second path at the cemetery.

Cremated remains

We have 3 plots taken in our dedicated row for cremated remains, and enquiries for a further 2 plots to be purchased.

Memorial Permits

We have issued 10 memorial permits to date from April 2026.

Cemetery Inspection

We sent 4 letters to grave owners who were breaching cemetery regulations, 3 of which had removed grass and had more than the permitted number of adornments.

Income and Expenditure

For this financial year to date we have an income of £10,575 from the cemetery made up of interment fees, plot purchase, memorial permits and transfer of exclusive rights. Expenditure stands at £2,256.

Public Toilets

We continue to have problems with vandalism and anti-social behaviour around both toilet blocks.

Financial information to 31.8.26

Income: £343

Expenditure: £5759

Markets

Between April and August we ran 22 weekly markets and 1 seasonal market (Mid-Summer in Wem). In addition, we have issued 2 market licences for small events.

Financial information to 31.8.26

Income from stallholders: £1,659

Income from licence fees: £40

Expenditure: £286

Stallholder attendance and customer footfall at the weekly market are weather-dependent but at its summer peak, nine pitches were in use. We will continue to seek opportunities for enlisting new stallholders.