



There will be a Meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee On Monday 13th January 2025 at 7pm in the Parish Office

Present:

Committee:

Kirsty Robinson-Ward, Josh Robinson-Ward, , Gill Bindoff, Fergus Lapage, Gerald Short Sandra Griffith,

In Attendance: Sally Stewart

WPC Representatives: Nicky Smallbone

Officer: Kristina Tynan

01/25 Apologies for Absence

Roger Beattie, James Tappin, Johanna Hoffbeck.

02/25 Declarations of Interest

There were none notified.

03/25 Approval of Minutes 23rd September 2024

Resolved: That the minutes of the 23rd September 2024 be agreed as a correct record and they were signed by KRW.

04/25 Management Issues

- 1. Sewage works, fence and track - JRB** said that the track is now more level now the works for the sewerage drains have been done. He said that we need to get some more loads of planings put down on the track as a priority. The Operations Committee will put some hedging plants and temporary Heras fencing in the gap that the contractors made. GB suggested looking at some mixed hedging to include Holly. It was noted that this will be done before March. There will need to be a maintenance programme for the plants which JRW will discuss with the Operations Committee.
- 2. Reports of gate being left open at school entrance** – It was noted that there is one culprit, and a letter will be sent to the Allotment Holder. A polite reminder will also be put in the next newsletter.
- 3. Gate on path to Love Lane update-** The new gate seems to have deterred the deer. A sign saying no public right of way needs to be installed.
- 4. Emma's shed** – Cliff Walker had offered a price for this, and it was agreed to accept this.

5. **Love Lane entrance area** – There has been a grant from FvM to improve this entrance and put in some planting.
6. **Communal Orchard including memorial bench** – The trees have been collected and will be planted shortly. There will need to be volunteers to look after them who can then pick the fruit. We may need to purchase some compost.
7. **St Leonard’s Tree Festival Update** – KRW said that it was the biggest tree there and the event went well.
8. **Hazels / clear-up day** – This will be on the first weekends in February and the Chairs will send the date out to the allotment holders to help with this. Tom Bindoff’s signs will be borrowed for this.
9. **Back hedge trim** - This is the hedge behind the chicken runs and will be trimmed.
10. **Back corner clear up** – This seems to have become a dumping ground and needs clearing up.
11. **Seed Swap** – JH will send out a date for this shortly. There are also seeds in the community shed. KT asked that the date be sent to her once known, so she can book out the bench area at the Town Hall.

05/25 Applications for structures/tree

It was noted that one plot has 6 Christmas trees on it; they use them for Christmas and then replant them. It was thought that six was a bit excessive and JRW will speak to the allotment holder about this. 2 or 3 were deemed to be enough.

06/25 Plot availability/wait list.

There are 7 Watlington and 2 out of Watlington residents currently on the list.

07/25 Allotment Finances

1 Budget Update 2024/2025 and Financial Information

Income

| | |
|-------|----------------|
| Rents | 1669.98 |
| Other | 898.36 |
| | <u>2568.34</u> |

Expenditure 1876.22

Balance **£692.12**

Earmarked Reserves: £948.00

- 2 **Any items that need to be purchased?** Teak Oil, Bulbs for Love Lane entrance
- 3 **Rents** – These were due on 1st October 2024. The office will go through the list and chase up the late stragglers.
- 4 **Water Bill** – The latest reading was sent to Castle Water.

08/25 Date of Next Meeting

There will be the six-monthly annual inspection on Monday 21st April so a date following this will be sent out for the next meeting.

09/25 Any Other Business

Chickens – Over Christmas there was an issue with one of the chicken runs and the allotment holder was written to and he has sent through a response. There was discussion on whether a separate Chicken agreement is needed or do we add it onto the tenancy agreement. The Chairs will look at the guidelines and report back to the next meeting.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.05PM