



Minutes of the Meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee Held on Monday 8th July 2019 at 8pm In the Community Office

Present:

Committee:

Allotment Holders:

George Bruce (GB), Robert Rogers (RR), Jane Beard, (JB) Sally Stewart (SS), Marie-Claire Allen (MCA), Shane McIntyre (SM), Gerald Short (GS), Keith Gambriel (KG).

WPC Representatives: Nicky Smallbone (NS)

Officer: Kristina Tynan (KT)

George Bruce presided over the meeting until Election of Chairman

23/19 Election of Chair

George Bruce nominated himself for Chair and Shane McIntyre seconded. Jane Beard nominated Robert Rogers and Sally Stewart seconded.

A vote was taken:

George Bruce: 4 in favour, 4 against

Robert Rogers: 4 in favour, 4 against.

The Chairman then used his casting vote for George Bruce

Resolved: That George Bruce be elected as Chairman.

Jane Beard and Sally Stewart then left the meeting.

[Post Minute Note: Formal written resignations from Jane Beard and Sally Stewart have been received].

24/19 Election of Vice-Chair

George Bruce nominated Robert Rogers and Keith Gambriel seconded. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Robert Rogers be elected unanimously as Vice-Chairman.

25/19 Apologies for Absence

Amber Chainey.

26/19 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

27/19 Approval of Minutes

Resolved: That the Minutes from the Meeting on the 14th March 2019 which were received by Council on 9/4//2019 to be signed by the Chairman as a correct record of this meeting.

28/19 Management Issues

1. **Gate by School End** – A new gate with a stop has been installed. Consideration of putting up a sign saying 'Please shut the gate' or some other wording. SM has put the signs up on the gate.

2. **Noticeboard** – All materials have been bought – This still has not been put up. This could be put up at one of the entrances.

3. **New Noticeboard** – It was thought that purchasing a new noticeboard for the middle of the allotments would be a good idea. It would need to be of sufficient size to put in all the notices needed. One side will be for the use of the allotment holders to put up notices. RR has sourced some and KT will send out some agreed.

4. **Rear gates from Love Lane properties to access the allotments** - It was noted that these are giving access to private land and they should not have been put in. It was agreed to monitor this situation.

5. **No Dogs signs** – KT had ordered these and SM will put them up.

6. **Should a quarterly newsletter be provided to all plot holders** – It was agreed that this was a great idea. It can be sent out by email, put on the Allotment Facebook Group and also on the noticeboard when we have it put in. GS will write this and RR will give him any relevant information.

7. **Should free manure and wood chip be given to plot holders?** After discussion it was thought that this would be a good idea. SM and GS to get prices for these. It was thought that part of Plot 9, which is vacant at present would be an ideal place to put it. It was thought that October would be a good month to do this. KT to speak to Owain Devey about wood chippings.

8. **Consideration of bi-annual inspections?** This was agreed and the best months to do these would be in Sept/Oct and March. It was thought that these should be done by 2 WPC members and 2 Allotment Committee members.

9. **Plots – Update**

There will be 5 vacant plots – Plot 9 will be made into two with one part to be used for manure/chippings. Plots 4, 9, 14 and 15 are vacant. Plot 16 we need to check who has this. We have one person waiting for an allotment and she will be allocated one. KT will email GB with her information.

29/19 Allotment Finances

1. **Budget Update** – KT will email this out.

All rents have been paid apart from one holder who is awaiting confirmation of the amount to pay as he now has a smaller plot. One plot holder will be doing work in kind for his allotment rent and GB/RR will deal with this.

2. **Water usage of plots and meter reading update** – The meters have been read and the bills have now been sorted out. RR will take regular readings and sent to KT.

3. **Moving the date when tenancy/payment due to November** – There was discussion on this and it was thought that it would make more sense to have payments at this time. It was agreed that as all payment have been made to April 2020 this would need to start in 2020. Allotment holders will be able to pay for six months until November 2020 or for 18 months which would take then to November 2021. However, this will be further discussed nearer to April 2020.

4. **Purchase of an electric timer for water tap to turn off at certain times** – GS has looked into these and there are also battery versions available. This would stop any taps etc being left on overnight. GS will look into the costs and efficiency of these. It was thought that if this would work, we should purchase and install one as long as the cost is not more than £100.

30/19 General Issues

1. **Tour of Allotments for students** – KT to ask Matt Reid for an update on this.

2. **Trees in the Allotment** – The problem trees are being pruned.
3. **Allotment Open Day** – It was agreed not to have an Open Day.
4. **Allotment's for Exercise and Companionship** - NS has the relevant information and has spoken to the person at Age Concern who is dealing with this. We will need to have volunteers to sign up to being a part of this. We should look at have this in place for April 2020. NS to further report on this at the next meeting.
5. **Article from the Allotment Committee for the ICC School newsletter** – Agreed to put on hold and speak to Matt Reid regarding this.

31/19 Maintenance

1. **Paths to be kept clear to full width**- All the paths need to be kept at full width. It was noted that a part of a shed is on the path but this plot is becoming vacant so the shed will be moved.

32/19 Future Issues for Discussion/Implementation

There were no issues raised.

33/19 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting to be held in October/November. KT will send some dates out.

34/19 Any Other Business

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.28PM