



Minutes of the Meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee Held on Monday 11th July 2022 at 7.30pm in the Parish Office

Present:

Committee:

Kirsty Robinson-Ward, Josh Robinson-Ward, Gerald Short, James Tappin, Johanna Hoffbeck.

WPC Representatives: Ian Hill

Plot Holders: Angela Lambert, Martin Ford, Jenny Wilkinson, Hilary Bennett

Officer: Kristina Tynan

09/22 Election of Co-Chairs

Ian Hill proposed Kirsty and Josh Robinson-Ward, and this was seconded by James Tappin. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Kirsty and Josh Robinson Ward be elected as Co-chairs.

10/22 Election of Vice-Chair

Josh RW proposed Gerald Short and this was seconded by Ian Hill. There were no other nominations.

Resolved: That Gerald Short be elected as Vice-Chair.

11/22 Apologies for Absence

Gill Bindoff, Stedje Fanning, Fergus Lapage, Roger Beattie

12/22 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest notified.

13/22 Approval of Minutes from 4th April 2022

Resolved: That the minutes of the 4th April 2022 to be agreed as a correct record and to be signed by one of the co-chairs.

14/22 Management Issues

- 1. Task Force Group to be set up** - KRW reported that 6/7 people have volunteered to join this group to help with maintenance, looking after plots if people are unwell etc. It was asked if it has been ascertained the ownership of the path to Rainbow Nursery and we are still waiting for OCC to clarify this. JRW will contact Freddie van Mierlo on this issue.
- 2. Rubble left over from water upgrade** – In the process of being broken up, KRW has had a quote for a concrete crusher at £300 but JRW and KRW will continue breaking up by hand.
- 3. Road repairs-** Martin Ford said that he had a friend with a tractor who could level up the road and would do this pro bono. This offer was gratefully accepted. KRW and JRW to be put in touch with Councillor Steve Bolingbroke to discuss the remainder of the allocated water budget- KT to put them in touch. Funds still needed to repair the track and buy troughs. KT to also send KRW and JRW information on the Doris Field Trust. JT suggested Mobbs in Wheatley for road material.
- 4. Communal Area - Agree on Shed purchase** – It was agreed that more options are to be looked at and JRW will do this and email members. It was noted that hopefully we would have some slabs that could be used for the base. It was hoped we could have the shed in September and we may need to use some of our budget to purchase a bigger one (we have £713 from a grant). The use of a solar panel for lighting was mentioned, we have been given some tools from the Henley Allotments, JT suggested frosting for windows. It was agreed that some waiver/disclaimer will need to be signed by people who use it. There will also be an

honesty box for contributions for the fuel. There is a strimmer and we have funding for a mower- the plant sale money will go towards this but it will require extra funds.

5. **Compostable Toilet - Agree a location** – There was discussion on this, and several sites were identified. JRW and KRW to map out three options and let people comment on these.
6. **School children/members of the public walking on site/dogs** – After discussion it was agreed that we make every effort to close the gate at the Rainbow Nursery end and to let plot holders know this. JH mentioned it would be positive to have a stronger connection with the school where the allotments could be educated and offer the opportunity for interested pupils to visit.
7. **Quarterly newsletter** – GS has an article, JW was asked if she could write an article on hot bin composting for the next one. GS, KRW and JRW to discuss newsletter.
8. **Plot Availability Update** – There are 9 people on the waiting list.
9. **The middle pathway to the allotments from Love Lane** – It was noted that elders are growing back and need chopping and treating. JRW to obtain a quote from Jeff Critchley.
10. **General Maintenance** – More water troughs are needed. JT said that they need to come from an agricultural supplier as these are much tougher. To let KT know if anything needs ordering. It was noted that there should not be pipes off the troughs. If people need to use one to fill up their watering cans, they should put it on and remove when the watering is finished. We need to alert plot holders to this.

15/22 Applications for structures

No applications had been received.

16/22 Allotment Finances

1 **Budget 2021/2022 and update 2022/2023**– These were sent by email

KT reported that the Allotment is at zero budget and therefore can spend all money that comes in from Rents and other things. There are grants for the shed and compostable toilet.

2. **Any items that need to be purchased** – There were no requests.

3. **Rents** – These are due on 1st October 2022 and any increase will be discussed at the next meeting.

17/22 Date of Next Meeting- Monday 17th September

18/22 Any Other Business

Produce Sale – Didn't think this was needed but enthusiasm for a fun horticultural show potentially next year, e.g. the wonkiest carrot.

Bonfires – It was agreed in the light of the hot weather that we temporarily ban all bonfires/BBQ/burning until further notice.

Children on allotments- To send out a note that allotment sites can be dangerous and there are many hazards that can cause injury, so please keep children under supervision and around your plot and do not allow them to play with taps.

Competition for Plot Number Markers – That we ask all plot holders to design a marker for their plot with the number to be put on it.

Bees – Martin Ford gave a brief report on the keeping of bees which was very useful.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.35PM

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