



Minutes of the Meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee Held on Monday 29th March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom

PRESENT:

Committee:

Allotment Holders:

George Bruce (Chairman), Gerald Short

WPC Representatives: Nicky Smallbone, Roger Beattie

Allotment Holders: Jeremy and Chrissie Bell, Steven Fanning, James Tappin,, Hilary Bennett, Kirsty Ward Robinson.

01/21 Apologies for Absence

Fergus Lapage.

02/21 Declarations of Interest

There were none declared.

03/21 Approval of Minutes

Resolved: To approve the Minutes from the Meeting on the 23rd November 2020 which were received by Council on 8/12/2020 and to be signed by the Chairman at an appropriate time.

04/21 Management Issues

1 **Existing Noticeboard** - It was noted that this is being used and anyone can use this to post messages.

2 **New Noticeboard** – GB to organise installation of this. There was discussion of an electronic noticeboard and it was noted that there are two allotment Facebook pages especially for technical questions. It was noted that everything today can be looked up on the Internet. KT will have a look at the National Allotment website and which we are members of.

3 **Quarterly newsletter** – GS is putting one together and was waiting for this meeting to happen first. He asked if anyone had something they would like adding, to let him know.

Items to add from this meeting:

1. Ask Allotment holders for their view on the current water situation and whether they would be in favour of having the system upgraded. To also ask if holders would contribute £10 for example towards this one-off project.

2. To ask plot holders to contact the parish office if they have not yet paid their rents up to 30/9/2021.

3. Bi-annual inspection to take place after Easter.

4. If plots are adjacent to the path that plot holders keep their part of the path clean and tidy.-

5. Mention of bees in the allotment – If anyone has allergies to them- to suggest that if anyone does that they carry an epi- pen when they are coming to the allotment.

4 **Plot Availability Update** – There are no available plots and there are five people on the waiting list. This was noted. GB reported that this year there have been 8 changes with regards to plots.

5 **Extension of Water Pipes / Water Supply** – Need to get views of Allotment holders. The approx. cost of this would be £4000. This would increase pressure of the water as bigger diameter pipes would be installed and all plots would have easy access to water. The Finance committee looked at this and there were insufficient funds in the budget to allow for this. It was agreed to ask Finance to look at this when the year end figures are in to see if some allocation could be made for this. It was noted that we have 3 quotes for this work. Plot holders should all be using gutters and water butts if they have sheds.

6 The middle pathway to the allotments from Love Lane

KT reported that this now belongs to the Parish Council as we heard from Land Registry today. The allotments and recreation ground are also now in the ownership of WPC.

RECOMMENDATION TO OPERATIONS COMMITTEE: That this footpath is looked at and to consider putting road planings down.

7 **Asbestos Pipe removal** - RB said that these can be disposed of at the recycling centres free of charge. RB will deal with this.

8. **Rubbish** – It was noted that there are a large number of unwanted items and rubbish in the allotments. GB said that Tom Bindoff has kindly taken some truckloads to the tip. GB to deal with this.

8 Bi Annual Inspection

James Tappin will look at the condition of the taps and will put the water on. He will take a meter reading and send to KT.

Resolved: That George Bruce and Gerald Short conduct these after Easter.

05/21 Allotment Finances

1 **Budget Update 2020/2021**

[**Post Minute Note:** Budget 1/4/2020 – 28/2/2021

2. **Any items that need to be purchased** – GB needs some petrol and will liaise with KT. JT to contact KT if any parts needed when he looks at the water taps.

3. **Chasing up non- payment stragglers** – George has been sent a list. The office has also been trying to contact them.

06/21 General Issues

New committee members

Resolved: That James Tappin, Steve Fanning, Gill Bindoff and Kirsty Robinson Ward join the allotment committee.

07/21 Maintenance

Paths to be kept clear to full width – To put this in the newsletter.

To note good work on raised beds and new sheds – FL had asked that the committee note this.

08/21 Items for Information

Future Issues for Discussion/Implementation

1. **Rear gates from Love Lane properties to access the allotments** – Situation to be monitored

09/21 Date of Next Meetings

Scheduled Meeting Dates: 28th June, 18th October 2021

10/21 Any Other Business

Fence condition around the Allotments- JT asked if this could be looked at. Roger Beattie said he would do this and report back.

Commercial Vehicle driving through the allotment at night and disposing of waste in a Love Lane garden –

There was much discussion on this and it was noted that this is not allowed. It was noted that that access rights need to be put in the plot holder agreement. WPC will send a letter to the resident in question.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.10PM