

Minutes of the **Allotment Advisory Committee** held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 at 7pm held remotely via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions.

**Present:** Councillors N Poole (Chairman), Mrs J Briggs, J England, T Foster (joined 19:06), J McKellar Main, Mrs P Skelton, Mrs B Todd.

**Allotment Representative:** Mr C Scott

**In Attendance:** Tracey Black, Parish Clerk

**632. Apologies for absence**

Received from Mr B Ross (Small holder rep.)

**633. Declarations of interest** – None declared

**634. Minutes of last meeting**

The draft minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2020 had been circulated to all members prior to the meeting. The minutes had been adopted by the Parish Council on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 min ref. 1523 12d.

**635. Clerks report**

**To receive the Clerks report providing information on recent issues and matters.**

- a) Min 627b – Gap in boundary hedge - Fencing posts had been erected 7 August but sawn off overnight, this had been reported to the police. Scaffold pole erected 11 September and signage placed advising ‘Private land-no public right of way’. It was reported that the signage had been removed from the pole several times and some were still using the gap.

**Resolved:** Investigate the use of anti-vandal paint.

- b) Min 627c – All annual allotment rents have been received.
- c) Min 630 a)i) Allotment2B – cleared by handyman and cultivated by B. Ross prior to new tenant.
- d) Min 630 a)ii) Allotment 38A – Subsequently terminated and cleared by new tenants. A skip had been hired to dispose of waste from clearance of 38a & 38b then cultivated by B Ross.
- e) Min 630 a) iii) Track – The Chairman & Clerk had inspected. It was thought to be in good condition and B. Ross had filled any holes with planings
- f) Min 630b) – Allot 36. P Chapman – The clerk reported that the second letter had not been sent as work had commenced to remove the timber. To discuss any further action in the inspection report.

**636. Allotment tenancy terminations / notice of terminations**

- a) Allotment 38A                      K Brumby                      Terminated 25/6/20

**637. Allotment tenancy applications**

**To receive allotment tenancy applications;**

The Clerk reported that the following allotments had been allocated since the last meeting;

- |    |                |               |         |
|----|----------------|---------------|---------|
| a) | Pauline Martin | Allocated 2B  | 1/7/20  |
| b) | Tom Carter     | Allocated 38B | 17/7/20 |
| c) | Bridget Gravel | Allocated 38A | 26/7/20 |

**Waiting list** – 1 Applicant – S Hindley

Signature:

Date:

**638. Allotment inspection report****a) To receive the allotment inspection report and agree any necessary actions**

The following was reported by the Allotment rep. Mr Chris Scott;

- i) Allotment 36 – Chapman/Benson. (See min 635f above). It was noted that although some timber had been removed from the track side of the plot, a large amount still remained and also an accumulation along the east boundary.

**Resolved:** letter to be sent requesting removal of all stored timber from the plot by 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

**b) To receive the Best Kept Allotment Competition results**

Best kept allotment; 1<sup>st</sup> – Allotment 5A 2<sup>nd</sup> – Allotment 11B 3<sup>rd</sup> – Allotment 3C

Newcomer – Allot 2C

The Clerk advised that national garden centre vouchers and certificates had been delivered to the winners from the Parish Council.

**639. Matters for discussion****a) To consider action to be taken when small holding plots 12,13,14,15 become available for use on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**

**Resolved:** Chris Scott to draw up proposals showing a site layout using one or two tracks running north / south. Clerk to distribute suggested plans to committee members and arrange a site visit prior to the next allotment meeting.

**b) Public notice at allotments**

The Chairman advised that following reports of a dog turning ill whilst exercising on Holme Meadow field the Parish Council had proposed signage at the allotments to advise that dangerous substances are used on the allotments and dogs must be kept on leads. (Parish Council minute ref. 1537 641v).

**Resolved:** Clerk to seek advice from the National Allotment Association for appropriate wording of signage.

**c) Youths on allotments in evenings**

Chris Scott reported that a group of youths had gathered on benches and entered a shed near allotments 17a/b over several evenings during the preceding week. Verbal abuse had been received by those that had confronted and drugs were suspected.

**Resolved:** to advise anyone witnessing anything to report to the police.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The meeting closed 7:31pm.

Signature:

Date: