

MINUTE 26T

A meeting of the Allotment Management Committee and the Garden Allotment Tenants was held on the 29th day of APRIL 2019 at the Methodist Chapel, commencing 7.30 pm

COMMITTEE PRESENT - Mr Storey, Mrs Bane, Mr Cock and Mr Rayner. Also present 6 tenants.

APOLOGIES – Mrs Garland.

MINUTES of the last meeting were taken as read, agreed & duly signed.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Vermin Control – All tenants present felt this situation was under control and that the current contractor is doing a good job.
2. Knotweed – Mr Cock said he had been monitoring this and will continue to keep an eye on it.
3. Allotment Husbandry – Mr Storey still has to arrange meeting with the Headteacher at the primary school to offer an allotment on the grassed area to the left of the entrance.
4. Entrance to Allotments – The tenants felt this was not an issue.
5. Vacant Allotments – Clerk said one full plot and one half plot are vacant.
6. Walkabouts – Mr Storey said Committee members are carrying out their monthly walkabouts. He had walked the allotments about two weeks ago and said some plots are in need of attention whilst others are excellent. He said lack of water seems to be a problem as the ground is so very hard and when asked, the tenants said they would like him to raise this issue at the next Parish Council meeting with a view to installing a water supply. Mr Storey said rents would have to be increased to accommodate this should it be approved and Mr Edwards said he thought tenants would understand that. Mr Golding said water usage would have to be monitored in some way so that some tenants were not charged for other's usage and Mr Storey said this was a valid point.
7. Break-ins – Mr Cole said he wasn't aware of any break-ins but the general public are able to access the allotments quite easily and are sometimes milling about on them. Mr Rayner said he had spoken with Farmwatch who offer a free crime prevention survey but Mr Edwards said he didn't think this would be useful as tenants are already aware of crime prevention measures. Mr Cole suggested putting a chain across the entrance but Mr Fenn, representing Ms Pollard, stated that as the Hythe Road was such a fast road, this would not be safe unless there was a pull-in area in front of it. Mrs Bane suggested Mr Storey assess the area to see if this was feasible and Mr Storey said he would do this.
8. Allotment Size – Mr Edwards said the plots were accurately measured a few years ago and asked the Committee to bear this in mind should they be resized.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9. Hedges – Mr Fenn asked if the hedge at the front of the allotments which neighbours Hythe Road could be kept higher to maybe 8ft so that there is more shelter from the wind. Mr Storey said this was a good idea and asked the Clerk to bear this in mind when obtaining quotations later in the year.

Meeting declared closed 8.03 pm