



WARWICK TOWN COUNCIL

ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES

6.30pm

Monday 4 July 2016

PRESENT:

The Mayor Councillor Mrs C Cross, S Cross (Substitute), R Edgington

Co-Opted Members Mr Peter Atkinson (Cape Housing), Mr John Hinks, Mrs Sylvia Murray & Mr Steven Poynter (Percy Estate), Mr Clifford Wiggins (Railwayside)
Mr John Owen (Horticultural Society)

70. Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor R Edgington and seconded by Councillor S Cross that Councillor Mrs L Bolton be elected Chairman.

No other nominations were received and it was;

RESOLVED: That Councillor Mrs L Bolton be elected Chairman of the Allotments Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year 2016/2017.

It was agreed that Councillor Mrs C Cross would continue to Chair the meeting in her absence.

71. Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were received on behalf of Councillor M Ashford, Mrs L Bolton, J P Bromley, T. Morris,

Mr S Wilson (Canalside representative) & Ms Sian Lewis (Allotments Administrator)

72. Declarations of Interest

Members did not notify the Assistant Town Clerk of any matters arising from the agenda on which Members might have an interest of a personal or prejudicial nature.

73. Election of Deputy Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor R Edgington and seconded by Councillor S Cross that Councillor M Ashford be elected Deputy Chairman.

No other nominations were received and it was:

RESOLVED: That Councillor M Ashford be elected Deputy Chairman of the Allotments Committee for the ensuing Municipal Year 2016/2017

74. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2016 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

75. Update from Allotment Administration Team

ATC reported that Canalside representative Mr Simon Wilson had stepped down and would look to other plot holders on site to volunteer.

Leaflets and pamphlets for general view were encouraged to be posted on each site regularly. It had been established that laminates informing of the Judging day for Allotments had been removed but it was also acknowledged that usually all plot holders were contacted separately which had been omitted this year in the absence of Sian. It would be addressed in future.

All site reps confirmed that advice about general horticulture was available and that safety notices would be displayed.

ATC reported that laminates of the Allotment Competition Winners would be sent by post to representatives for display.

A copy of the final judging was circulated to Members and representatives.

The Committee extended their thanks to Mr Andrew Caine for his time and judgement again this year.

The date for the Awards evening would be confirmed at a later point.

Allotment Administrator Sian Lewis was still very poorly and would not be returning for some weeks, dependant on her ongoing health. The Committee and Reps wished her a speedy recovery.

Fire update.

ATC had again met with plot holders of 17 & 18 on Percy Allotments concerning the damage to their shed. It had been decided that they would look to have a meeting with Councillor Neale Murphy (WDC) a fire fighter to whom ATC had conferred, with a view to establish further facts about the incident. Mr & Mrs Ellis would then be approached for their version of events. A further report would be submitted to the next Reps meeting on 8 Aug.

A designated bonfire site would look to be established on all allotment sites with further advice circulated to members about the seriousness of following the correct procedures.

ATC confirmed that the new Chairman and herself would be working together to update the new rules and regulations as well as Tenancy agreements which would be more comprehensive than the present version and would establish procedure and consequences for flouting of the regulations.

ATC had finally managed to tracked down the company responsible for the Pylon on Percy Allotments, Western Power. A Health & Safety inspection was requested.

Contact details for their community support team would also be forwarded and ATC would look to investigate contribution toward the repair of the access road.

76. Percy Allotment Road Repair Fund

RHS representative Mr John Owen proposed the initiative to contact all plot Holders on the site to request a road levy donation in a bid to see the issue of the access road addressed.

ATC requested the information sent by Mr Owen outlining a resurfacing company in order to establish a quote for a more permanent repair and in the meantime informed the committee that conversations had already taken place with WDC Officers to remedy the road condition.

It was resolved to contact all plot holders for their contribution to the Road Levy as well as further investigation for funding for the permanent fix, such as the Equestrian Centre as they used the road for access also.

77. Tenancies and Lettings

Railwayside

ATC confirmed that Plot Holder of 4a had given notice to relinquish the plot. This would then be offered to Mrs Mary Hawkins who was next on the waiting list for Railwayside.

ATC had been in contact with Plot Holder Mrs Buckley who was unable to cultivate her plot due to her health and abilities, but used it very much as a link to other people.

It was decided that representative Mr Cliff Wiggins would approach Mrs Buckley and her extended family to encourage her to quit the plot but still enable her to visit.

Mr D Jones was expected to confirm that he would relinquish Plot 6 and upon this Mr & Mrs Terri and Gwyn Evans would be approached to take on either 6A or 6B as it would revert back to half plots to be offered.

Cape Housing

It was requested that the tenants of all plots be contacted and reminded of their obligation to keep the footpaths in a tidy manner. It was acknowledged that the Judge had mentioned that this should be addressed particularly for this site.

Also Plots 2 and 11a needed to be contacted reference cultivation to their plots.

Canalside

Plot Holder for plots 13 & 14 would be contacted regarding plot Cultivation.

Percy Estate

It was confirmed that Plot Holders on tarter plot 8a would be allowed to cultivate plot 8d but with the proviso that they would need to move to a different half or full plot and the end of this growing season thereby relinquishing the starter plots for their correct use to encourage more interest.

Plots 72a and 76 were now free to be offered to the next on the waiting list.

Plot Holders of 15, 28b, 34, 61, 73a would be followed up about the cultivation of their plots.

Plot 79- Jacquie Darcey had been contacted and the cultivation of the plot had been addressed.

78. Maintenance

Standpipe for Cape Housing

Mr John Turrell had completed the works to the Standpipe.

Signed..... Date.....