

MINUTES of ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE Meeting of 7 December 2023 at 7.00pm at Euxton Allotment Site Office

Councillors present: Cllr E Jones (Chair)  
Cllr D Rigg  
Cllr K Reed  
Cllr S Hoyle (not in attendance)

Officers present: A Mayoh L Hardman

Members of the public 2

1. Apologies None
2. Minutes of the meeting held 23 February 2023.

**Resolved:** Minutes of the Allotment Committee held on 23 February 2023 were agreed to be an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Public participation

Two Plot Holders Present. The issue of drainage on site was raised. See Point 5 Site Reports and Considerations for Resolution details.

4. Bee Project

Members discussed the possibility of an alternative location for a hive as the Orchard is no longer a viable option due to access issues for contractors. A letter will be sent to plot holders in April with any new prospective positions. Item to be placed on the Agenda for the next Allotment Committee Meeting.

5. Site Reports and Considerations

Footpaths

Estimates to be obtained for new top dressing to all footpaths to replace surfacing which has been eroded.

Drainage

Enquiries to be made with CBC re the existing land drain on site, may require a feasibility study and drainage survey to identify the water source.

6. Plot Reports and Considerations

Inspection Reports Update –

The Allotment Officer has carried out plot inspections and improvement letters have been issued where applicable. The setting of cultivation targets was discussed. Amendments are to be made to the Allotment Agreement and Guidelines forms to cover the non-payment of rent and plot rental payments to be made by Direct Debit on 6<sup>th</sup> April each year, a 40 day notice period will be given for non-payment.

There was a discussion regarding fence heights on plots, any addition must not exceed 1.2m to maintain the open plan design of the allotment site.

Change Over of Plots –

There is currently one plot available and a viewing has taken place, there are 24 people on the waiting list at this time.

Plot Rentals – The new Rental Fees of £97.92 and £48.96 (half plot) come into effect from 06/04/24.

7. Allotment Society

The Allotment Society Meeting on 3rd December 2023 did not go ahead and has been rescheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Reports Back

Security issues; the new gate locking system appears to be working well and no issues have been reported. A new defibrillator has been fitted to the Allotment Site perimeter fence.

Outstanding Items

A suggestion was made to put bedding plants or raised beds on perimeter of the car park to make a floral border, item to be discussed at the next Allotment Society meeting.

8. Any Other Items which need attention or research

Councillor Neil Hall has resigned his position as a Parish Councillor and there is now a vacancy for Vice Chairman on the Allotment Committee. Item to be added to the Agenda for the next Allotment Committee Meeting.

The North West In Bloom scores were discussed with the site scoring 85 out of 100. One area of development NWIB suggested was the possibility of splitting plots to create starter plots to assist with the numbers on the waiting list.

The issue of tyres on plots and how to dispose of them was discussed. Enquires to be made by the Deputy Clerk and Allotment Officer re disposal options. Item to be added to the Agenda for the next Allotment Committee Meeting.

The subject of green algae/moss on the edges of the allotment site was raised. The Allotment Officer will treat it in April 2024.

9. Budget

The budget of £15,224.27 is sufficient and no request from precept was made.

10. Set date for next meeting

The next meeting was set for 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024.