

LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Allotment Committee was held in on Monday 24 July 2017 at 6.30 pm in the Allotment Gardens, Pikes Hill, Lyndhurst.

Present: Mr A Wiltshire, Mr T Dunning, Mr K Kaljura and Mr S Se-upara.

In Attendance: Mrs M Weston (Clerk to the Council)

1. Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was received from Mr M Rollé.

2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Wiltshire declared an interest as an allotment holder.

3. Public Participation

None.

4. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting

The minutes of the Allotment meeting held on Saturday, 3 November 2015, having been circulated, were signed as a true and accurate record.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that would not be the subject of Agenda items.

6. Plot Allocation

The Allotment Committee Chairman and the Clerk had met with Michael Grant and a new allotment map was being drawn up with plots resized "on paper" to match actual plot sizes. It was noted that at the present time some plots seemed to be unworked and it was not known whether the plot holders wished to continue their tenancies. It was agreed that it was necessary to keep plots in good order in order to prevent weeds and seeds encroaching adjoining plots.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk contact as necessary and report back to the Allotment Committee Chairman. Further, plots that were no longer tenanted, but were in a poor condition, would be strimmed at the Parish Council's expense by the maintenance team.

7. Work/Activities Completed or Pending in Current Financial Year

(a) Allotment Track

It was noted that the main track was in good order at the present time.

(b) Allotment Inspection

The Allotment Committee Chairman and Clerk had completed an allotment inspection and results would be taken forward with any necessary action taking place.

(c) Vermin Control

The Allotment Committee Chairman reported that it was understood that vermin control could only take place on site for a period of six weeks at a time and then should cease. For this reason the previous operative had ceased to attend on site.

RESOLVED: That the Clerk explore the possibility of providing vermin control on site in the future in order to prevent the previous problem reoccurring.

(d) Prevention of Dogs Entering the Top Allotment Gate

Work had now taken place with full co-operation of LPC, the Forestry Commission, Natural England and the Verderers. Dogs were now unable to enter the allotment gardens unattended.

(e) Noticeboards

It was noted that the two Parish Council noticeboards were in very poor condition. They had been renovated on one occasion at considerable expense. There was also a smaller noticeboard that was maintained by the allotment holders themselves and this appeared to be in better condition.

RESOLVED: That the Parish Council noticeboards be removed from the Allotment Gardens.

(f) Allotment Competition

It was noted that the "Best Allotment" competition had not run by the Parish Council for some considerable time but had previously been a popular event.

RESOLVED: That LPC reintroduce the Best Allotment competition, judging to take place in June/July 2018.

8. Community Orchard

The Clerk reported that there were several plots at the top end of the allotment gardens and that it had not been possible to let them for quite a considerable length of time. Therefore the ground had been mown and was now quite even. At the present time there were six fruit trees on the site and the Clerk asked for permission to make enquiries to see if any funding was available to provide a community orchard.

9. Financial accounts

10. Any Other Business to take forward to the next meeting.

None.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting.

_____ Chairman

_____ Date