

NORTH HINKSEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 12th OCTOBER 2017, AT 7.45pm, IN THE SEACOURT HALL, BOTLEY.

Present: Councillor Ms. A. MacKeith (Chairman) and Councillors J. Bolder, A. Hardiman, L. Kunzemann, and R. Mayne.

Others Present: A. J. Stone (Parish Clerk)

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology was received from the C. Sugden (Co-opted Allotment Holder).

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **CO-OPTION OF ALLOTMENT HOLDER TO THE COMMITTEE**

Members UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to co-opt Mervyn Morgan to the committee.

4. **ALLOTMENT ISSUES**

a). **DRAFT ALLOTMENT RULES AND MANAGEMENT OF THE WAITING LIST**

Members commented and discussed the contents of the report to the Parish Council on 19th October 2017, including clarification of the term cultivation, the confirmation of the 70% cultivation ruling for a single plot, 170% cultivation if 2 plots are hired and 270% cultivation if 3 plots are hired.

The term cultivation meant that the required % had to be turned over and cultivated each rental year and under the Multiple Plots heading after the term 'No changes retrospectively' ADD according to existing tenants rules regarding multiple plots.

Councillor J. Bolder proposed and Councillor L. Kunzemann seconded the motion that the committee accepts the proposed changes to the proposed revised allotment rules.

Members UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED the motion.

b). **WAITING LIST FOR ALLOTMENT PLOTS**

The Chairman, Councillor Ms. A. MacKeith updated the meeting on the current position.

c). **CUT-BACK OF THE BOUNDARY HEDGING IN NORTH HINKSEY LANE**

The Chairman, Councillor Ms. A. MacKeith informed the meeting of a number of issues in relation to the hedge being cut this year. The main problem in cutting the hedge was from Botley WI to the first house after the nature reserve as the hedge bordered the public footpath. Due to the size of the hedge it would require it to be flayed by a local farmer and arrangements to do this were ongoing. The committee were of the opinion that the hedge should be cut twice a year, but realised that their current budget did not have the required financing to do so.

Action: The Chairman Councillor A. MacKeith to arrange for an ongoing budget bid to be made for the 2018/2019 financial year (NHNR/Community Orchard).

d). **DONATION OF A PETROL MOWER**

Councillor R. Mayne reported that the Parish Clerk had donated a petrol mower to the Allotments Committee which was being stored on site. Anyone wishing to use the mower should contact Councillor Mayne. The committee thanked the Parish Clerk for his kind donation.

Action: The Chairman, Councillor A. MacKeith to include an item in the next allotments newsletter.

5. **NORTH HINKSEY NATURE RESERVE AND COMMUNITY ORCHARD ISSUES**

a). **PROPOSAL FOR AN ADDITIONAL WALKWAY FROM THE MINNS BUSINESS PARK TO NORTH HINKSEY LANE**

Councillor A. MacKeith reminded the committee what had been AGREED at council in relation to Kevin Minns proposal for the walkway and his offer to help fund improvements to the NHNR.

b). MEMORIAL GARDEN

Councillor A. MacKeith confirmed that the memorial garden needed some extensive works to be undertaken to bring it back into shape and was grateful to Kevin Minns for his offer to help financially and with specialist advice to achieve the objective.

6. ANY OTHER INFORMATION

It was AGREED that the next allotment inspection would be on Saturday 21st October 2017.

7. DATE OF NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

18th January 2018

The meeting finished at 7.40pm