



## **BRIERCLIFFE WITH EXTWISTLE PARISH COUNCIL** **ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

**Present Councillor Lishman (in the Chair), Bailey, J. Greenwood (Allotment Manager), M. Greenwood (Lengthman), S. Watson (Clerk).**

**Others: Alan Firminger(Allotment Society Representatives) plus 2 Allotment Tenants**

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were submitted by Councillor Frost, Councillor Prince and Councillor Royle.

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2011 were approved as a correct record.

**3. Actions taken from the minutes**

There was no further news on the pathway repairs by United Utilities, the Clerk will contact Paul Halstead and get a copy of the agreement with United Utilities and progress the issue. It was noted that an allotment map was in progress. There were no further actions from the minutes.

**4. Allotment's Society Report**

The Allotment Society Representative raised concerns over the emptying of the skip area as it has only been partially cleared. The Allotment Manager explained that the Turning Circle area had been cleared and an additional skip had been provided by the Borough Council. The recent removal of rubbish had uncovered a lot of spoil in the skip area which has encouraged more dumping including some rotten doors. It was suggested that a sign is provided asking that all rubbish is bagged, CCTV was also suggested. The No Fly-tipping sign is to be provided and the next skip is due on the 30<sup>th</sup> September and one on the 18<sup>th</sup> October.

Hen droppings are also being dumped in the skip area and recently a dead hen was discovered. A metal container will be provided that can be used to burn wood rubbish.

Green waste taken to the tip currently costs £45 and it was suggested that the County Councillor may be able to provide a solution.

**RESOLVED:** That a sign is to be provided with the following wording:

**“For Allotment Use Only – All waste must be contained in strong bags – No Asbestos, No Glass, No Tyres, No Batteries and No Oil – Failure to comply will result in termination of your tenancy.”**

The Allotment Society Representative raised the Society’s concerns on the issue at the last meeting with the other Representative, Kelvin Harris. It was noted that Kelvin has now resigned as an Allotment Representative.

The Newsletter referred to the Allotment Manager position being a paid post, the Clerk clarified that the established post was a paid position, however the current Manager was a volunteer to the position in an unpaid capacity. If the post is to receive a payment then the job would need to be correctly advertised.

The Society Representative raised concerns over 3 underused plots. It was agreed that the Allotment Inspection Agenda item would be taken at this point in the meeting.

## **8. Allotment Site Inspections**

It was agreed that an ‘end of season’ site inspection would be carried out. It was agreed that allotment plot 2B on site 2 would be closely monitored.

**RESOLVED:** An Allotment Site Inspection is to be carried out on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 5:30pm from the Harrison Street barrier.

The Allotment Manager will put up a notice of the Site Inspection, the Allotment Society will notify members and collate any issues prior to the inspection. The Society will also provide a list of members to inform them when the next skip is to be provided.

## **5. Paths around the Allotments**

Three quotes have now been received for the Harrison Street pathway but these have all come in considerably over budget. It was agreed that half of the pathway will be done at this stage with the provision of kerb edges and pipes to drain water.

**RECOMMENDED:** That approval is given to complete half the Harrison Street pathway according to the quote received.

It was suggested that the Maintenance Agenda item is renamed Allotment Jobs and this item was taken next.

## 11. Maintenance - Allotment Jobs

The following Allotment Jobs were agreed:

- trim Harrison Street path and around
- tidy up the Skips area
- fill in bottom path

It was noted that Harrison Street is part of the Burnley Way and the Chair will contact Burnley Borough Council and Calico to request matched funding for Harrison Street.

It was noted that Ian Whewell's cows keep escaping onto the landslip area.

**RESOLVED: That the fences be repaired or replaced as necessary to prevent animals accessing the site subject to sufficient Allotment funds being available.**

## 6. Douglas Road Garden Extension

The brambles behind no. 3 are still to be removed then the resident is willing to take on the plot.

## 7. Garages

### 7.1 Turning Circle

All eight garages are ready to let and 8 tenancy agreements have been signed with deposits and the first months rent being paid. The Clerk will chase up the garages bank account.

### 7.2 Garage Plots

It was suggested that some garages are not being used and some are being used purely for storage.

## 9. Finance

No details were available, the Clerk will provide the Allotment finances to the Parish Council meeting.

## 10. Waiting List

The Allotment Manager has provided 3 new names for the waiting list, Allotment application forms will be sent out and a new list will be provided to the Parish Council meeting.

## 12. Storage Facility

It was suggested that containers could be provided for storage rather than the use of garages. These could be rented out at £65 - £70 per month.

**RECOMMENDED: That available space on the Rec ground is ascertained and up to 10 containers are provided for rent and the Newsletter is used to gauge the amount of interest there is in renting containers.**

**The meeting then moved into private session**

A report was circulated setting out a proposal for the second phase of the garage colony at the Turning Circle. There are currently 8 people on the waiting list

**RECOMMENDED: That the report is presented to the next Parish Council meeting for consideration.**

**Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 7:30pm, at the Community Centre.