

Allotments Committee**Monday 9th March 2015 7.30pm**

Present	Councillors	S Haynes P Woodhams J Shardlow G Clark	Chairman
		R Strachan M Cheale	Glebe Rep Folly Field Rep
		L Harrison	Deputy Clerk
	Press		0
	Public		0

4015-15 Apologies & Substitutions

Apologies received from Rep G Copland and Rep M Wade (another meeting).

4016-15 Questions from the Public

None.

4017-15 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared a personal interest and advised that he rented 2 allotment plots on Hitchens Field (Minutes 34**/14).

Rep M Cheale declared a personal interest and advised that she rented 1 allotment plot on Folly Field.

Rep R Strachan declared a personal interest and advised that he rented 1 allotment plot on Baxendale Field.

4018-15 Minutes

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2014 be approved.

Resolved To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2014 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.

4019-15 Baxendale Field

It was reported that the repair work to water pipes had been completed and the Chairman confirmed that plots and path had been reinstated. There was consensus that flooding in the middle of the allotments on the path where there is a dip was a regular occurrence. Discussions took place regarding the state of the track through the allotments into the grazing area and it was recommended and seconded that the Deputy Clerk would make enquiries with the Clerk to establish who had responsibility for the maintenance of the track into the grazing field. In

light of the response from the Clerk it was recommended and seconded that once maintenance responsibility for the track had been established that WPC contact the grazing tenant and negotiate repair work to the track.

The Chairman confirmed that to date the gate had not been repaired and recommended that this was done by the WPC maintenance contractor. *Completed on 12/03/15.*

The drain on plot 24 was discussed and it was recommended from the Chairman that WPC contactors for maintenance and grass cutting attend and remove the drain before 1/4/14. *The Clerk has confirmed that Highways are the correct way forward to ascertain if the drain is legal before any actions is taken by WPC.* It was also recommended from the Chairman that WPC contact the tenants on plot 24 that as it had been uncultivated for the past year that the plot was to be taken off them and left to grow fallow to allow water drainage. *The Clerk has confirmed that WPC should initially write to the tenant warning them that if the plot remains uncultivated as per the allotment policy the plot will be taken off them.*

Cllr Shardlow informed the Committee that she had given up her plot and after making enquiries with WPC office who had confirmed that there wasn't a waiting list for Baxendale that she had an acquaintance who had subsequently taken it over via the office. Following this an enquiry had come into the Deputy Clerk from another member of the public requesting to know if they were still on the waiting list for Baxendale. The Deputy Clerk had not been aware of a waiting list and it had been agreed with the Clerk that the member of the public was written a letter apologising for the error from the office.

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| Resolved and recommended | 1 | To note the report. |
| | 2 | To establish who had responsibility for the maintenance of the track through the allotments into the grazing field and once maintenance had been established WPC to contact the grazing tenant and negotiate repair work to the track. |
| | 3 | WPC maintenance contractor repair the gate. <i>Completed on 12/03/15.</i> |
| | 4 | WPC to contact Highways to ascertain if the drain is legal before any actions is taken by WPC. |
| | 5 | WPC to write to the tenant on plot 24 warning them that if the plot remains uncultivated as per the allotment policy the plot will be taken off them. |
| | 6 | WPC write to the member of the public regarding the error for the Baxendale waiting list. |

4020-15 Glebe Field

It was recommended and seconded that the tenant on plot 15 was sent a letter from the office regarding the density of the trees and weeds and requesting that they cut back and tidy up.

It was recommended and seconded that the tenant on plot 41 was written to requesting they remove the temporary greenhouse as it was

unsafe.

It was reported than a number of carpet rolls had been placed on and next to plot 44. It was recommended and seconded that the tenant on plot 44 was sent a letter from the office regarding the carpets requesting that they are removed ASAP.

It was reported that the gate into Glebe from Marford Road had been repaired by the new grazing tenant and it was recommended by the Chairman that WPC write and thank them for their work on restoring the gate.

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| Resolved and recommended | 1 To note the report. |
| | 2 To write to tenant on plot 15 requesting that they cut back and tidy up. |
| | 3 To write to tenant on plot 41 requesting removal of temporary greenhouse. |
| | 4 To write to tenant on plot 44 requesting carpets are removed ASAP. |
| | 5 WPC write and thank the new grazing tenant and thank them for their work on restoring the gate. |

4021-15 Hitchens

It was reported that there hadn't been much change on this area from the last meeting. It was reported that the latch on the bottom gate had been repaired. It was also reported that the wood chippings pile was still growing. The Chairman agreed to look at the top gate (Marford Road) to see whether it still locked and what if any repairs were required and report back the office.

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| Resolved and recommended | 1 To note the report |
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4022-15 Folly Fields

It was reported that there was a large pile of rubbish (mainly garden waste) dumped between plots 1 to 3 and there were concerns that this area was now becoming a communal dumping area. It was recommended and seconded that the Deputy Clerk contact PGM for a quote for signage once wording had been agreed by the office and committee members prohibiting the pumping of green waste and rubbish. The rep confirmed that plot holders had cleared and tidied up following the last meeting.

Plots 16b and 27 were reported as not having numbers.

It was also recommended and seconded that Cllr Shardlow would prepare an article for the next edition of the Pump reminding residents not to use allotments for unwanted rubbish and green waste, and other allotment rules (ie. bonfires, turn taps off).

It was reported that overhanging branches were limiting access to a plot, it was recommended by the Chairman that the resident was written to reminding them that it is their responsibility to cut back overhanging branches.

