

Allotments Committee

Monday 14th September 2015 7.30pm, Hewitt Room

Present	Councillors	S Haynes	Chairman
		P Woodhams	
		G Clark	
		E Habib	
		R Strachan	Glebe Rep
		M Cheale	Folly Field Rep
		G Copland	Baxendale Rep
		S France	
		L Harrison	Deputy Clerk
		Press	0
		Public	1

4284-15 Apologies & Substitutions

Apologies received from Cllr Shardlow and M Wade.

4285-15 Declarations of Interest

The following members declared a personal interest and advised that they rented allotment plots: the Chairman 2 plots on Hitchens Field; M Cheale 2 plots on Folly Field; R Strachan 2 plots on Glebe Field; G Copland 1 plot on Baxendale Field; and S France 5 plots on Glebe Field.

4286-15 Minutes

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 8 June 2015 be approved.

Resolved To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th June 2015 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.

4287-15 Baxendale Field

The representative for Baxendale updated the Committee on this site. Plots 20, 24, 28 and 33 remained uncultivated. It was confirmed that three new "soak-away's" had been installed on the Slype but that during periods of heavy rainfall the allotment site was still prone to flooding. The Chairman updated the Committee that the landowner of the field adjacent to the site confirmed that the land and soil adhered to DEFRA guidelines. The overhanging trees on the site were discussed and it was recommended by the Chairman that the Deputy Clerk obtain a quote to cut back the trees overhanging plots on the site, all agreed.

**Resolved and 1 To note the report.
recommended 2 Deputy Clerk obtain a quote to cut back the trees overhanging plots.**

4288-15 Glebe Field

A discussion took place with regards to splitting plot 45 into two half plots with one half used as a car park area. It was recommended by Cllr Woodhams that the change of usage from plot to car park was not agreed by the Committee, this was seconded by Cllr Habib, and all agreed. The representative for Glebe reported that plots 15 and 42 were

uncultivated and the deputy Clerk confirmed they were unpaid. It was reported that the tenant on 47b had taken more area from the path between the plots. It was reported that a poly tunnel structure was being built on plot 10. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would make further enquiries with the tenant and inform him to remove the structure. It was reported that a hawthorn bush planted by M Carter was not growing and it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would contact M Carter and inform him of this. The tree on the representative's plot was discussed and it was recommended by Cllr Habib that the Deputy Clerk obtain a quote from the tree contractor to reduce the tree, seconded by Cllr Woodhams and all agreed. S France informed the Committee that a number of tenants had requested a skip. It was agreed by the Committee that a 8 yard skip would be ordered by the deputy Clerk for mid-October.

- Resolved and recommended**
- 1 To note the report.**
 - 2 Change of usage from plot to car park area on plot 45 was not agreed.**
 - 3 Deputy Clerk make further enquiries with the tenant on plot 10 and inform him to remove the structure - *done by email 15/09/15***
 - 4 Deputy Clerk contact M Carter and inform him of hawthorn bush - *as above*.**
 - 5 Deputy Clerk obtain a quote from the tree contractor for the Council to cut back the tree on plots 27 and 29 Glebe.**
 - 6 Deputy Clerk order a 8 yard skip for mid-October.**

4289-15 Hitchens

It was reported that plots 42 and 59 were uncultivated.

- Resolved and recommended**
- 1 To note the report**

4290-15 Folly Fields

It was reported that the path onto the site had been improved by residents. The representative gave the Deputy Clerk a list of residents that had access to the site from gardens and plots missing numbers.

- Resolved and recommended**
- 1 To note the report**

4291-15 Appointment of allotment reps

The current representatives for the sites confirmed they wished to continue their roles. It was agreed that S France would take on the role as "Wheathampstead Allotment Coordinator" and that the sites as a whole would be referred to as "Wheathampstead Allotments".

- Resolved and recommended**
- 1 To note the report**
 - 2 Name for all allotments agreed as Wheathampstead Allotments.**
 - 3 S France to undertake role of Wheathampstead Allotment Coordinator.**

