

Allotments Committee**Monday 8th June 2015 7.30pm**

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

4155-15 Apologies & Substitutions

Apologies received from Cllr Shardlow.

4156-15 Questions from the Public

Mr S France, a tenant on Glebe, requested he be considered for the role of allotment representative on Glebe. He stated he wanted to improve and coordinate information between plot holders via emails, create a forum for tenants to seek advice and swap seeds/seedlings/cuttings, to create links with the local foodbank, and organise social events (ie. bbqs). He confirmed he had been a tenant on Glebe for the last two years and had approached other tenants who had signed a letter supporting his request, which had 21 signatures on it. In reply the current Glebe representative R Strachan confirmed that he had been a tenant for six years and Glebe rep for four years. It was agreed that a decision with regards to Mr France's request would be made later in the meeting.

4157-15 Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared a personal interest and advised that he rented 2 allotment plots on Hitchens Field.

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 2 allotment plot on Glebe Field.

Rep M Wade declared a personal interest and advised that he rented 3 allotment plot on Hitchens Field.

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

4148-15 Minutes

The Chairman proposed and it was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2015 be approved.

Resolved **To confirm the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th March 2015 to be a true and fair account and for these to be signed by the Chairman.**

4159-15 Baxendale Field

The Chairman confirmed that Highways were due to install a further soak away in the road in the dip on 17 August 2015 and enquiries were being made by the Clerk with Highways to agree removal of the drain once the addition soak away had been installed. The Clerk had also written to the land owner to the east of the allotments (the horse's field) to enquire as to whether appropriate work has been done on the fields to address the water run-off from the field onto the allotments. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that a new tenant had taken plot 29. A request was made to cut back the trees overhanging some allotments in the autumn. It was agreed that the Chairman and WOSV coordinator would visit the site and review the work required to reduce overhanging trees over allotments, and report back to the Maintenance Committee. The rep reported a faulty dripping tap and it was agreed that WPC contractor would repair dripping tap next to allotment entrance.

Resolved and recommended

- 1 To note the report.**
- 2 The Chairman and WOSV coordinator to visit the site and review the work required to reduce overhanging trees over allotments, and report back to Maintenance Committee.**
- 3 WPC contractor to repair dripping tap next to allotment entrance.**

4160-15 Glebe Field

It was reported that plot 15 remained uncultivated and the deputy Clerk confirmed that the tenant had not paid their fee for his year. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk to write to tenant on this plot terminating the agreement due to non-payment and un-cultivation of plot. It was reported that the taps on the site had been left on overnight. The Chairman requested that the Deputy Clerk produce the water bills for all the sites at the next meeting to review water use and the Deputy Clerk to research timers on the meters to address this issue.

Resolved and recommended

- 1 To note the report.**
- 2 The Deputy Clerk to write to tenant on plot 15 terminating the agreement due to non-payment and un-cultivation of plot.**
- 3 Deputy Clerk to research timers on water meters for all sites**

4161-15 Hitchens

It was reported that plots 45 and 46a remained uncultivated and it was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would write to the tenants. It was reported that plot 43b remained uncultivated and the deputy Clerk confirmed that the tenant had not paid their fee form his year. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk to write to tenant on this plot terminating

the agreement due to non-payment and un-cultivation of plot. It was reported that the wood chippings pile had reduced and agreed that the signs requesting no further chippings remain in situ. It was requested that the Deputy Clerk contact the RSPCA and ascertain the details of the visit to plot 8 which has one turkey in a coup following concerns raised by other plot holders.

A request was made to review the management of plot boundaries due to the issue of plot drift on this site. The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the gate at the bottom of the field still needed repairing. It was agreed that the WPC contractor was to cost repairs.

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| Resolved and recommended | 1 | To note the report |
| | 2 | Deputy Clerk contact the RSPCA and ascertain the details of the visit to plot 8 which has one turkey in a coup following concerns raised by other plot holders. |
| | 3 | Deputy Clerk to write to the tenants of plots 45 and 46a regarding un-cultivation. |
| | 4 | Next Allotment Committee meeting to review management of plots boundaries to address plot drift. |
| | 5 | WPC contractor to cost repairs to gate. |
| | 6 | Deputy Clerk to write to tenant on plot 43b terminating the agreement due to non-payment and un-cultivation of plot |

4162-15 Folly Fields

The Deputy Clerk confirmed that the tenant of plot 4b and taken 4a as well. It was reported that one dog had been causing a nuisance on the site which had been reported back to the rep. It was agreed that the Chairman would discuss this issue with the Clerk. It was reported that although the residents at no. 15 had cut back overhanging branches the reduction was not enough and that access to the site was still restricted by overhanging branches. It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would ascertain the nature of the access path onto the site and if suitable report to the District footpath officer.

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| Resolved and recommended | 1 | To note the report |
| | 2 | Chairman to contact the Clerk with regards to a dog on the site. |
| | 3 | Deputy Clerk to ascertain the nature of the access path onto the site and if suitable report to the District footpath officer. |

4163-15 Appointment of allotment reps

S France and R Strachan left the meeting. A discussion took place with regards to the request made above by S France. It was agreed that the Committee valued the contribution R Strachan had made over the last few years and that he should continue his excellent work as the Glebe allotment representative. The Committee has proposed a new role for S France: to coordinate information between tenants with regards to

allotment news and issues; to explore the creation of a forum for tenants to seek advice and swap seeds/seedlings/cuttings; to investigate creating links with the local foodbank; and to organise and attend social events (ie. promote allotments at Village Weekend, bbqs, etc). It was agreed that the Deputy Clerk would contact both R Strachan and S France with these decisions the following day by email.

Resolved and recommended and 1 **To note the report**
2 Deputy Clerk to email R Strachan with decision that he remain rep for Glebe
3 Deputy Clerk to email S France requesting he undertake new role as detailed above.

4164 - 15 Other matters

It was agreed that Cllrs G Clark and P Woodhams would visit the allotment sites and decide on winners for the Village Day allotment prizes.

Resolved and recommended and 1 **Cllrs G Clark and P Woodhams to visit the allotment sites and decide on winners for the Village Day allotment prizes.**

4165-15 Date of next meeting: 14th September 2015

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.45 hrs.

Dated this day of 2015

Chairman