

WEST BERGHOLT ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE

Notes of meeting held at Vindens, Chapel Lane on 11th April 2019

Present: Terry Claydon (Chair), Harry Stone, Lynda Robinson, Graham Welham, Stuart Meadows, Paul Walker & Norma Smith

1. Apologies of absence - none
2. Review of previous minutes

With regard to the New Church Road gate –

Harry is arranging for the Parish Council to paint a white 'H' line on the road in front of the gate to help prevent people parking there

Terry is ordering plastic signage regarding parking & also a metal strap to pull the gate up as it has dropped & hard to open. It will need something to tie it back.

Agreed this gate can be left part open for access to the stall.

It was reported that it is difficult to open the bolt on the Chapel Road gate.

A poly tunnel for the site is being considered & currently looking to see if one can be obtained from elsewhere.

3. One plot currently available & to be viewed soon. 8 people on the waiting list – priority will be given to village residents.
One plot has not paid rent, another the shed has been removed & unclear intentions on a further plot - Terry is investigating these.
Observations made regarding unkept sites, please note plot inspections take place twice a year.
4. Rents to be increased by £1 across the board – subject to Parish Council approval.
5. Stuart has been working on creating our Facebook page. Agreed it will be a Closed site (only open to plot holders) & items shared on the village hub Facebook page when appropriate. We will also look at providing a quarterly news bulletin on here & by email. More details regarding this will be sent out with September invoices.
6. The bonfire went well. The new rule regarding no depositing of waste until the time of bonfire seems to have been respected. We continue to ask plot holders to remove waste off site or compost rather than burn. Please do not compost meat, fish, raw or cooked, including bones, dairy, bread, cakes & pastries, uneaten food from plates & dishes – basically anything that will attract vermin.

Our wood supply may be drying up but Stuart offered timber from his building project to assist.
7. The water tanks have been turned on with 2 leaks occurring & the plumber is working on these. Non return valves are an issue & Anglian Water will advising whether these are

actually required on the new tanks. Possibility of boxing the back pipes in to prevent them being damaged is also being considered.

8. The site rotavator is not working & is being taken to Ernest Doe for repair.
Terry is looking into a replacement lawnmower
Harry advised that the Parish Council have offered to cut the main walkways/common areas on site whilst using the sit on mower in the village. It was agreed to accept this offer & Harry will progress.
Norma raised the issue of Insurance/welfare regarding the protection of volunteers using the site equipment & also unsafe/hazardous items being placed on the stall for donations. A considerable discussion was held & further thought needs to be given on this for the next meeting.
It was agreed however that the Charity Stall is for garden produce & garden related items only.
Also that no garden unsafe/hazardous or electrical items are to be placed on the stall. If any are seen they are to be removed immediately.
9. A Committee has been organised to plan for our 2 fete stalls with a meeting due on the 16/7
10. £225 has been raised from the Charity Stall from Jan to March & a flow of plants/produce is now appearing.
A guide price is being shown for some items at the request of people unsure what to donate.
A Committee has now been set up to manage the stall
A generous company in Holland has donated 400 Gladioli bulbs
White markers to be placed on plots where it has been agreed produce can be picked for the stall.
A request was made to reduce the number of posters placed around the stall & on site.
11. AOB
Consideration to be given to obtain a pull along trolley to transport produce picked on plots for the stall – Terry will investigate
Opening up of a bank account for the Charity Stall will be progressed by the Allotment Committee on behalf of Charity Stall Committee
Consideration to be given to a mid year skip if needed.
Reminder that there is a Plot Holders meeting on site Sunday 14/4 at 10am.
12. Date of next meeting is 18th July, 19:30 at 44 Pirie Road.

Norma Smith
Secretary
13/4/19