

WEST BERGHOLT ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES 15/7/21

Present – Lynda Robinson (Chair), Norma Smith (Secretary), Harry Stone, Stuart Meadows, Colin Waylen, Bob Taylor.

1. Apologies – Layla Beaumont, Teresa Tubby
2. Reminder that rents will increase by £2 across the board this year.
3. The accounts are in good order. Norma to ask Laura for a total for the Charity Stall. Budget to be prepared before Jan meeting. Looks like we will need a new lawn mower & Lynda will contact Laura about the possibility of a grant for this. Colin to investigate a suitable mower.
4. 3 people on the waiting list (one from the village). We now have 146 plots on site.
5. Quite a few plots have been left unattended. There will be an inspection in August.
There is blight on site affecting potatoes & tomatoes therefore plot holders need to cut off the tops & remove from site
6. The village fete is on Saturday 24/7 & the Allotments will have a stall. Lynda to send out an email with the minutes asking for volunteers plus whether anyone can donate any produce to the stall
7. The Parish Council will continue to cut the grass on the main tracks & car areas however if it gets too long between these cuts, we have a volunteer who will help mow
8. The Parish Council insurance will provide Employers Liability protection for Volunteers on the allotment when carrying out specific jobs (eg. Hedge cutting) however ONLY if they have signed a form which is then held by the Clerk. As all Committee members volunteer, they need to complete the form along with people who help at the skip & stall. Lynda to arrange
9. Harry to talk to the Handyman about hedge cuttings & a shredder. Hedge to be cut from October onwards
10. It was decided against having a specific area for items to be placed that would go into the next skip. Instead plot holders should take items home or keep on their plot.
11. Layla has already volunteered to paint the new shed & Lynda has also offered to help.
Encourage plot holders to place their surplus produce here if they are unable to take this to the charity stall. Door to be left open to encourage use. Someone has placed a broken hand tool in there, but this is not what it is to be used for.
12. The WBAA has sponsored a Friendly Bench which will be sited on the Poors field. The PC are currently awaiting the stakes & plaque before it can be installed & a photo will be taken & shared.
13. Lynda will ask plot holders if they know of any village group that may wish to apply for some of the charity stall money. The group would need to contact her direct to request funds
14. The updated Risk Assessment document was reviewed & some amendments made.
15. AOB
A plot holder queried the possibility of a plot being left as a wild area to attract insects. It was decided that as we have a waiting list this would not be possible. However an area of brambles & nettles by a hedge has been purposely left for insects, which will not cause a problem to any plot.
There is evidence a deer has been on site
Dates to be agreed for the next meetings.

Norma Smith
WBAA Secretary

