

BARROWBY PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Barrowby Allotment Committee Meeting held on Monday 15th April 2024 at the Reading Room, Barrowby

PUBLIC FORUM (7.15pm): There were no members of the public present.

Following a proposal by Mark Cherry, seconded by Mr Pcola, members resolved to suspend Standing Orders and open the meeting ahead of the scheduled time.

MEETING OPENED: 7.23pm

1. WELCOME REMARKS (23/033)

- 1.1 The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting. Those in attendance were Mr Cherry, Mr King, Mrs King, Mr Lightfoot, Mr Pcola, Councillors Marriott and McConnell-Good.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & REASONS GIVEN (23/034)

- 3.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Mr Chambers and Mr Chapman.

3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 (23/035)

- 3.1 None received.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (23/036)

- 4.1 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Clerk's minutes of the Allotment Committee Meeting held on 15th January 2024.

5. SITE REPORT (23/037)

- 5.1 Mr King provided a site report:
- the speed bumps will be finished when the weather improves.
 - the slab path to the toilet needs finishing in the Spring.
 - solar lights have been purchased but need putting up.
 - following a boundary inspection there are some small repairs to be made to the fence, but it is now the nesting season so this will have to be done later on in the year.
 - the water is now turned on.
 - after the recent high winds one polytunnel was shredded.
 - the trellis on top of the boundary fence backing onto Chilvers Close is damaged again. The Clerk has reported this to Longhurst Homes.
 - stone has been purchased and some potholes have been filled.
 - the noticeboard needs to have the post replaced.
- 5.2 Members discussed the suggested change to the rule on gate locking whilst people are working at the allotments. Mr Cherry provided some background to the issue that if the gates are locked then emergency vehicles would not be able to enter the site. However, most people have mobile phones on them and would be able to ring somebody who has a key. For personal safety reasons the Police have advised that it is a good idea to keep the gates locked especially as there could be lone workers at their plot out of sight of the main road. Other Allotment sites are kept locked whilst plot owners are on site. After a lengthy discussion it was **RESOLVED** to approve that the rules are not changed. It was also suggested that the Committee look at providing emergency contact details to plot holders.

6. FINANCES (23/038)

- 6.1 Members noted the 2023/24 final finance figures.

7. ALLOTMENT ALLOCATIONS, PLOT REPORT AND WAITING LIST (23/039)

- 7.1 Members resolved to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies Act 1960, due to the confidential nature of matters to be discussed regarding plot allocations, plot report and waiting list.
- 7.2 Members noted the latest allotment allocations and waiting list numbers.
- 7.3 Members received a plot report – All plots are taken and rent paid. All Tenancy Agreements have been signed and countersigned. Renewal letters for associate members have been sent out and 23 responses received to date. Two plotholders have requested to site sheds on their plots. A plot inspection was carried out on 6th April and there were no major issues. Some pathways need attention and there are some sharp metal posts on a plot but letters will be sent out to plotholders. New plotholders have done a fantastic job on their plot despite the weather and the condition some of the plots were in when they took them over.
- 7.4 The meeting came out of closed session.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING (23/032)

- 8.1 Monday 17th June 2024 at 7.15pm at the Reading Room.

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.