

Humber Avenue Community Allotments
Committee Meeting
Saturday 29th April 2022
Durrington Community Centre

Those in attendance:

Peter Brereton (PB) Chair

Terry Smith (TS) Company Secretary

Peter Davey (PD) Treasurer

Christine Busfield (CB) Membership Secretary

Gareath Collins (GC) Member Liaison

John Heron (JH) Health & Safety Advisor

Ruth Allan (RA) Guest Plot Holder

Richard Billingham (RB) Guest Plot Holder

Ken Oakley (KO) Guest Plot Holder

1. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Proposed by PD Seconded by GC

2. Apologies for absence

Hilary Gribble (HG) Meeting Secretary Working, Fiona Kennedy (FK) Community Garden Co-ordinator Unwell, Malcom Hedger (MH) Project Co-ordinator Family commitment

3. Welcome

A warm welcome was expressed by PB to Ruth Allen, Ken Oakley & Richard Billingham who attended as guest plot holders.

4. Update on actions from the minutes and actions arising

- Risk assessment on overgrown vegetation on roadway. Plot holders to be asked to trim back, not least for the repair of the roadways scheduled for the financial year 21/22. **Ongoing**
- Plot markers need to be repainted **Ongoing**
- Pond on plot 56 needs to be fenced in for child safety **Was completed now reverted to unfenced. Action by PB**
- The defibrillator funding secured **PB to purchase and organise training**
- Car parking layout and lines painting. Now car park is clear of all obstructions no requirement for line painting. **Action closed**
- Community Room. Reports now received from Worthing Council Building Control, Fire & Health & Safety and Asbestos inspection. All passed to **JH for review. PB to survey plot holders** on whether a community room was required prior to any costing. A simple YES/NO survey.

5. Community Plot

Funding of £5000 now secured plus a number of small donations. Malcolm Hedger will project manage the creation of the facility. Management of the finance would be shared by MH and PD. The first activity would be to clear the site, rotovate, and complete shed. Then purchase a poly tunnel and sleepers for raised beds.

RB suggested using a material called Bredon Gravel and would obtain further information. It was stressed that DDA is a prime consideration.

6. Plot Inspections

On 25th April 2022 CB & MH undertook a survey of all plots to determine the state of cultivation. 72 plots were considered to be in a good state of cultivation. 14 plots showed signs of recent activity but would be monitored to determine progress. 7 plots were considered uncultivated and would be issued with a non-cultivation notice by the HACA Company Secretary. A further 2 plots were not considered cultivated but there were known circumstances. HACA Company Secretary would speak to these plot holders. PB suggest that where appropriate rather than evicting tenants they were offered a "plot holiday" and this was agreed by the committee.

The idea of naming and shaming as suggest at the AGM was discussed and considered to be against the principles of building a community.

7. Defibrillator

Now funding has been secured PB to organise purchase and training ASAP. Agreed location for installation was the toilet building.

8. Website and Facebook

Previous discussions had been investigated by RA and it was agreed by all to close down the current WordPress web site facility and all IONOS emails. RA would liaise with PD to determine a cost effective solution. The web site would be a depository for static information plus a news page. Plot holders would be encouraged to use Facebook as a fast and effective means of communication.

9. Events Jubilee

It was agreed to hold an event on Friday 3rd June commencing at 1pm. RA to lead the project

At this point TS proposed that under point 8 of the HACA constitution RA was appointed to the committee as Web and Events Coordinator. This motion was passed unanimously.

10. Subversive Activity

PB gave an update on the situation and said he hoped that following the AGM such unacceptable behaviour would cease. The situation would be carefully monitored and appropriate action would be taken where necessary. Worthing Council are fully aware of the issues and fully supportive of the committees actions.

11. Matters arising from the AGM

- It was agreed to hold regular plot holder meetings
- Discounts for registered disabled plot holder in line with the age related discount would be introduced when the 5 year SLA was in place. Plot holders could only have one discount not an age and a disability discount. Plot holders with 2 plots would only receive a discount on one plot (original plot).
- Half plots would be made available starting with plot 88. Initially this would be offered to existing plot holders who wanted to down size.

12. AOB

KO raised the issue of Humberbunch communications and Facebook page. PB advised that there should be no further activity from humberbunch.

13. Actions arising (summary)

PB summarised actions arising from the meeting and those responsible for taking action

14. Date of next meeting 11th June.

PB tasked TS to draw up a calendar of committee meetings up to the next AGM.