

## HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Allotment Committee held on Thursday 11th April 2024, 2pm the Pavilion,  
Hanslope Recreation Ground, MK19 7LG.

### Minutes

Present: P Cook (Chair) Cllr R Simpkins  
I Laurie  
G Merry (recording) Members of Public: 0

#### **24.009 Apologies**

There were no apologies. Cllr Pacheco and Ms Scott were absent.

#### **24.010 Declarations of interest**

Mr Laurie and Mrs Cook declared an interest as allotment tenants themselves.

#### **24.011 Minutes of the last meeting held 18/1/24**

**MOTION:** To agree the minutes of the meeting held January 18th 2024, PROPOSED by Mrs Cook, SECONDED by Cllr Simpkins and AGREED

#### **24.012 Public Participation:** No items.

#### **24.013 Admin.**

- i. **Vacancies & waiting list:** Cllr Simpkins advised there were no vacant plots and 3 names on the waiting list. Mr. Laurie stated he would be happy for a prospective tenant to have one of his allotments.
- ii. **Payments:** The clerk reported only 1 payment outstanding. She advised that the amount of time spent chasing late payments negated the amount paid by the tenant, when her time/salary was taken into consideration. It was discussed and agreed changing the deadline for payments to Dec 31<sup>st</sup> but reminders would go out in early October. The wording in the rules would also be changed to state that if payment was not received by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, the plot would be re-allocated. The rule change was agreed and Cllr Simpkins will re-draft the wording for circulation.
- iii. **Risks/Hazards:** The clerk advised this should be an ongoing task and although there were currently no significant hazards, committee members would check again at plot inspection time.
- iv. **Progress on CAD:** Measuring is still in progress.
- v. **Tenant's Meeting and Feedback:** Plot 73 was discussed and it was agreed that tenants would be encouraged to let the committee know if they were going to be away for more than a week or two, so that neighbours could be asked to mow ridings and tidy plots etc. e.g. in the event of illness/absence. Entering neglected plots to apply weedkiller was discussed but it was agreed this would not be workable. Use of hosepipes was discussed but it was confirmed that the rule of no hosepipes would be kept to. Tenants must bring their own containers for transporting water.

#### **24.014 Maintenance**

- i. **Contractor, mowing update and condition of site:** The site was generally looking tidier this year. The contractor had not been able to mow yet due to the waterlogged conditions and it

was agreed he could start from 15/4/24. This would be the main ridings only and not the central/communal area.

- ii. **Ongoing maintenance of Communal Spaces, gates etc:** The contact list for the committee is now on the board and Mr Laurie will put up a site map showing plots. The clerk agreed to order a second gate sign with emergency numbers etc. The committee will continue to maintain the communal areas. Mrs Cook advised that a lightweight strimmer would be useful and agreed to research a suitable model.
- iii. **Any other maintenance issues:** The 'end' tap was in poor condition and Mr Laurie offered to fix it. The pothole in front of the gate was now even larger and it was agreed Mrs Cook will speak to Mr King, to quote for installing gravel and levelling etc. Another skip will be required later in the season.

**MOTION:** To agree actions as above and the purchase of the lightweight strimmer, once a model was agreed, PROPOSED by Mrs Cook and AGREED.

**24.015 Plot Inspections/issues with plots**

- i. **Plot inspection:** Plot 75A was discussed, as the tenant has not worked the plot for months. It was agreed this will be addressed when the inspections take place in May. It was agreed that inspections will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> May and that Mrs Cook will publish this on the WhatsApp group in plenty of time, so the tenants have warning. No letters were needed to be sent at this time.

**MOTION:** Agreed no letters to go out.

**24.016 Date of next meetings:**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 – 2pm

It was agreed an event would be discussed at the next meeting e.g. Barbecue, prosecco evening or similar.

..... **Signed (Chairman)**

..... **Date**