

Minutes of Allotment Committee Meeting held in The Rackliff Centre Rusthall on 18th June 2018 at 8:00pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllrs Edwards, Duncombe, Smith, Gordon, Ellicott and S French and R Benoy.

OFFICER PRESENT: Mrs S Denne – Clerk

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: There were 14 members of the public present.

Election of Chairman and of Vice Chairman –

Election for Chairman – It was proposed and resolved that Cllr Doug Smith would remain as Chairman.

Election for Vice Chairman – It was proposed and resolved that Cllr Barry Edwards would remain a Vice Chairman.

- 1. Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting -**
None
- 2. Apologies for Absence** – None
- 3. Declarations of Interest** – Cllr Smith, S French and R Benoy have allotment plots
- 4. Declarations of Lobbying** - None
- 5. Minutes:** To resolve that the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 19th March 2018 were agreed, and it was **RESOLVED** that the Chairman signed them as a true record.
- 6. Southwood Road** – The meeting was informed that a new 2m high fence would be erected along the front end of Southwood Road allotments, behind the hedge. With two new gates. Unfortunately, despite repairs youths were still getting into the site at the far end. Members to trim trees in the area.
- 7. Inspection of Sites** – Clerk inspected all three sites, with the help of Mrs French at Southwood Road. Letters were sent to plot holders who were in breach of their tenancy agreement. Further inspection to be carried out at a later date.
- 8. Badgers** – The Clerk informed the members that she had spoken to a pest controller, who informed her that there is nothing that can be done to remove badgers from the land and that it is illegal even to try and divert their pathway.
- 9. Gate Padlocks** – To discuss changing locks to keyless. – It was agreed by the members that the gate locks would remain with some key locks and some combination locks.

- 10. Competition** – Update – The BBQ will start at 1.30pm with prize giving at 3pm. Cllrs Smith and Edwards kindly offered to donate £25 each towards the food. Clerk to ask for numbers and purchase food.
- 11. Report a Crime** – The Clerk informed the plot holders that they must phone 101 if a crime has been committed on their plot. The Clerk cannot report it on their behalf. This can be reported on line if preferred.
- 12. Container** – Cllr Edwards informed the committee that a site visit may be required by the haulage company before a container is delivered.
- 13. Bee Hives on Allotment Sites Policy** – Committee agreed to document. To go to Full council for acceptance
- 14. Agreement between RPC and bee keeper-** Committee agreed to document with a couple of amendments. To go to Full council for acceptance
- 15. Chairman’s Report -** The Chairman had nothing to report other than he had received favourable reports with regards to the new grass cutting contractor.
- 16. Open session for questions from the public:** Plot holder informed members that they were still having problems with the height of the trees overshadowing from Southwood Park. Clerk to contact TWBC. Also hedge along boundary of Wickham Gardens requires trimming. Plot holder thought that the scouts may be interested in a plot on the Southwood road site.

Next Meeting 17th September 2018

The meeting closed at 21.00