

Court Oak Road and Tennal Lane Allotments Association

Honorary President Alan Harbour

Committee Meeting 12th July 2011 Quinborne Community Centre 7.30pm

Minutes

1) Apologies Dave Watkins, Alan Walsh, John McCarthy

2) Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of last meeting accepted. Proposed John McQuay, seconded Glenys Nicklin.

3) Matters Arising

i) Election of Secretary. Andrew Large was proposed as Secretary. Proposed Mick Clayton, seconded Pauline Webb

ii) Other. None

4 Site inspection by the Allotment Liaison Officer

John McQuay, John Bland, and Andrew Large carried out the site inspections with Mohammed Riaz, the City's Allotment Liaison Officer.

i) Court Oak Road. The site inspection of COR by John Bland, John McQuay and Andrew Large is nearly complete. This will be finished this week.

There are 12 to 15 plots vacant and several people on the waiting list. One plot was let last week and John Bland has offered to contact people on the waiting list.

The site inspection has shown that some plots do not line up with the councils plan.

The problem with badgers getting onto the site is difficult to resolve as they are a protected species.

The fence at COR has been repaired in several places in order to make the site more secure.

The asbestos on the COR site has been cleared.

ii) Tennal Lane. A possible 5 more plots at Tennal Lane have been identified. These plots need clearing but the council allotments department have made it clear they have no money to do the work. John Bland offered to contact the Community Payback scheme to see if they can help.

The area around the septic tank at TL has been cleared but the removal of the asbestos is more difficult. This will be pursued further.

5 Officers's Reports

i) Chairmans Report

Many thanks to John McQuay and Andrew Large for their work so far; and to John Bland for his work on the site and to the new area for Alan Harbour's bench and garden.

We have continued work on mowing and keeping the sites tidy though we need to create working parties to help with this work on both sites to keep the grass in check. In order to let sites the grass need to be strimmed down.

Alan's bench has been purchased.

The shed shop rota sheet is available for volunteers to put their name down. Shop is open on Sunday's from 10-12

ii) Treasurer's Rep

Finances. The shop is now making a profit after 37 weeks trading. The balance sheet is healthy with £1810 in the bank. This is after buying Alan's bench and allowing for the Key money.

iii Secretary's Report

The Secretary requests that all committee members ensure he has their contact details, especially their email address so he can keep everyone informed.

6 Sub Committees and Working Parties

We need to encourage volunteers to help with general tidying and gardenkeeping.
We need volunteers to do the shop on Sunday's.
We need to rationalise the storage space in the shed to create more space for stock.

7 Feedback from individual Plot Holders

Plot holders at TL would like to see more committee involvement with their issues. It was suggested that we hire skip to clear rubbish at TL. Hopefully this will help towards a general feeling of committee involvement and concern and the site will look a lot tidier. Mick Clayton offered to arrange a date for the skip people to drop one at TL then onto COR so as to remove rubbish at both sites. This needs to be organised so that the rubbish is bagged up and ready to be put into the skip.

AOB

i) We still need to acquire more secure storage before buying new equipment. Metal containers can be quite expensive but they are fit for purpose. Mick Clayton and John Mc-Quay offered to do some research about prices and auctions.

ii) Fund raising will be more important to pay for expensive items like a metal container. Some suggestions were, fliers and posters advertising the shop to local houses, the garden club at the community centre and other allotments nearby about the goods and competitive prices in the shop to encourage associate membership. Andrew Large offered to help with the poster. Another suggestion was for plant sales next spring. Also a raffle. We are looking to start this in February.

Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 6th September 2011 at Quinborne Community Centre