

**Minutes of the meeting of Ackworth Parish Council's Allotments Subcommittee, held at the Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane, Ackworth, on Friday 29 April 2022 commencing at 10am**

Present: Cllr M Galvin in the Chair

Cllrs J Bell, T Hames, S Hollyhead and T Hollyhead

Tenant Representatives: S Clifton, P Palmer, B Richmond and N Richmond

**1. Confidential Items**

1.1. It was reported Plot Inspections had been carried out on 27 April and it was recommended that a letter would be sent to those tenants whose plot fell below the required standard as set out in the Rules and Regulations. It was further reported that several plots would be monitored over the coming months and action taken where necessary.

It was also reported that a site meeting had been arranged with 2 tenants regarding the on-going management of their plot(s).

The Chair welcomed Tenant Representatives to the meeting.

Cllrs Mrs S Hollyhead and T Hollyhead left the meeting.

**2. To receive apologies for absence**

2.1. Apologies were received from Cllr A Cook and Tenant Representative K McCluskey

**3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

3.1. To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

3.2. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any)

3.3. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate

None to receive

**4. To receive matters arising from the meeting held on 18 February 2022**

None to receive

**5. To receive a report on the pumpkin event and agree a date for the weigh-in**

5.1. It was reported that 18 children had attended the event. The Chair expressed his thanks to the Allotment Association for the continued help with this event.

5.2. It was recommended that the weigh-in event would take place on Friday 21 October at 4:30pm

Cllrs Mrs S Hollyhead and T Hollyhead returned to the meeting.

**6. To discuss the management of unkempt plots**

6.1. A discussion took place. The Chair reported that letters would be sent out to those tenants whose plots were not up to the required standard and that a number of plots were being monitored and action would be decided at the next meeting.

**7. To receive an update on pest control**

7.1. It was reported the pest control officer had carried out several extra visits. The allotments provide a perfect harborage for rats. Care is always taken by the Pest Control Officer to ensure non-target species are not affected by bait.

A discussion took place.

It was recommended that Environment Control at Wakefield Council is contacted to see what pest control measures they have in place at their allotments.

It was further recommended that to assist the Pest Control Officer, contact is made with someone with a gun license to find out the cost and investigate insurance cover, risk assessment and how the dead rats would be disposed of.

**8. To receive a request from Brackenhill Allotment Association for road planings.**

8.1. It was recommended that planings are purchased from Wakefield Council and the Allotment Association will spread them.

**9. To review new lettings and the waiting list**

9.1. It was reported there had been 9 new lettings and there are 16 people on the waiting list

**10. To receive updates from Brackenhill Allotment Association**

10.1. The Association reported that

- Soil Improver had been delivered from Renewi for tenants.
- A new lock had been fitted to the Association shop.
- It was hoped the work would start on security improvements at the allotments using the grant money received from Wakefield Council pre pandemic.