

Minutes of Open Spaces/Fabrics meeting held on Monday 1st August 2022

Present: Councillor T Threlfall, (Chair)
Councillors Mrs. N Whalley, St. J Greenhough, Mrs. P Mulholland, Mrs. L Willis, Mrs. C Thomas, T Fiddler and K McKay

1) Apologies:

Councillor J Graham (holiday).
It was resolved to accept the reasons for not attending.

2) To record Declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

All Councillors, as Landlords, declared an interest in items 3-8 &10.
Councillors Mrs. L Willis & Mrs. N Whalley declared a pecuniary interest in items 3-8

Councillors Mrs. L Willis & Mrs. N Whalley left the room

3) To consider installing a Noticeboard.

It was resolved that a noticeboard should be purchased and paid for by the Council from the monies ring fenced for allotment improvements.

4) To consider whether the Lease Agreement should be extended to include family members (i.e. Spouse, Children & Grandchildren)

The Clerk reported that due to ill health one allotment holder was unable to work his plot and the family was helping out.

In addition, he had received a request from another plot holder to add the daughter's name to the lease agreement as she was unable to work the plot properly due to the spouse being unwell.

The Clerk reported that this had been done in the past but as there were now 32 people on the waiting list he recommended that in the future only one person's name should be on the lease agreement to avoid the plots being handed down.

It was resolved that in future only one person's name should be on the lease agreement. If a plot holder was unable to work the plot due to ill health then the family could help out for up to a maximum of 24 months.

5) To consider whether Allotment holders that do not regularly use the allotment should be given notice.

It was reported that one plot holder's mother was working the plot instead of the tenant.

It was resolved that if a person is unwilling to work the plot it should be given up. If this was due to personal circumstances then a reasonable time should be allowed for the family to help out.

6) To review whether a Spouse of an allotment holder should be on the waiting list.

It was reported that a spouse and a daughter of Allotment holders were on the waiting list.

It was resolved that only one plot per family should be allowed. Therefore it was agreed that the spouse and other members of the same family should be removed from the waiting list.

7) To consider whether the holder of a small plot should be offered a larger plot.

It was reported that a large plot had become available and the next person on the waiting list has indicated that he would like to put poultry and sheep on it. One of the smaller plot holders has requested she upgrades to the vacant plot, but it has been reported that she has the use of other land where she keep animals. It was resolved that plot should be allocated to the tenant on the waiting list.

8) To consider who should have access to the waiting list.

The Clerk reported that one item on the Allotment Holder Agenda was “Why is the waiting list a secret”. He reported that he had not had a request from anyone for a copy of the list but he would refuse as the information held is personal and to release this would be in breach of the Data Protection regulations.

Councillors Mrs. L Willis & Mrs. N Whalley entered the room.

9) To consider gully cleaning

It was resolve to refer this item to the next Full Council meeting.

10)To consider whether advertising signs should be allowed on the Cricket practice nets

It was reported that 3 advertising banners have been put up on the Cricket Practice Nets. It was stated that the Parish Council gives financial support to sections and permanent advertising was not permitted on the Bush lane Sports field. It was resolved that the advertising banners should be removed.

Signed.....T Threlfall, Chairman.....

Date.....05/09/22.....