



Meeting of the Allotment Holders with Members of the East Peckham Allotment Panel held at the Jubilee Hall Meeting Room on 18th October 2024 at 6.30pm

Assistant Clerk – J. Perretta 21.10.24

Minutes

1. Present: Cllrs M. Joannes, D. Seal, J. Perretta (Assistant Clerk) & 6 allotment holders (includes representatives).

2. Apologies: Cllr M. Williams

3. To approve minutes from meeting held 22nd March 2024

Proposer: M. Joannes Seconder: D. Seal All in favour

Items to discuss:

- **Allotment rent:** It was resolved by Full Council on 16.10.24 to keep the allotment rent the same for 2025 – 2026. Full plot £40.00 per year & half a plot £25.00 per year.
- **Maintenance requirements:** It was agreed to have the troughs cleaned after the water mains have been turned off by the maintenance person.
- **Compost bins & rats:** It was agreed that any new compost bins purchased by plot holders would need to be anti-rat proof to deter rodents. No food waste is to go into compost bins or be left on the ground outside of the allotments (the tree line). All compost bins are to be turned regularly. There are to be no piles of wood, old pots, rubbish etc to be left on plots, this should discourage vermin. The Parish Council will monitor this and decide at the next AGM if compost bins can remain.

- **Use of Polly tunnel:** It was agreed that the Polly tunnel is not to be used as a storage area for old pots, pallets etc & these are to be removed asap. It was agreed the APC will get quotes for internal racking. The idea from the committee was to have racking in the centre of the tunnel and allocate shelves/sections to each plot. The sides of the tunnel can still be used for taller crops. The APC agreed to have the Polly tunnel door looked at, due to the door slamming shut and locking plot holders in.
 - **To resolve winter water supply:** It was resolved to turn off the mains water by the end of October by the maintenance person. The water will be turned back on in March 2025. M. Joannes will contact the office should the water need turning on earlier. It was agreed once the water supply has been turned off the maintenance person will clean the troughs.
 - Proposed: M. Joannes Seconded: D. Seal All in favour
 - **Wormery & wild flower bed:** M. Joannes explained the advantages of a wormery, the liquid produced is a natural composter and good for plants. M. Joannes has confirmed an area for wildflowers has been covered, pegged & seeds are to be sown by himself.
 - **Shed:** It was agreed that M. Joannes will contact allotment holders about claiming any unlabelled equipment. If this is not claimed & labelled by the end of November, the Parish Council will take ownership or remove.
 - **Update on works completed:** The APC confirmed the shed ramp has been replaced with a concrete ramp, the ventilation window of the Polly tunnel now works, a bench has been placed for plot holders enjoyment, Hooks have been put inside the shed to hold the strimmer to make space on the floor. As agreed at the last meeting, ear defenders and goggles have been purchased. The fire extinguisher has been serviced & first aid kit restocked and the contents are in date.
 - **Waiting list update & provide plot numbers:** It was confirmed that plot 6 is available & half of plot 14 (new tenants are pending). Concern was raised around some plots being overgrown, unkept, only half used to plant and half for storage, weeds growing onto neighbouring plots and rats. It was suggested that should plots be unused and unkept for a period of time, plot holders are to be given notice.
- 4 Allotment holders questions/feedback: Questions around fuel required for mowers and strimmer.** D. Seal confirmed the strimmer is 2 stroke & petrol for the mowers. It was agreed a jar would be placed in the shed by M. Joannes to collect funds for fuel. As agreed the PC would not be involved in this process. It was agreed the PC would purchase relevant fuel tanks to store fuel. D. Seal has agreed to service and repair machinery where possible.
Proposed; M. Joannes Seconded; D. Seal All in favour
- 5 Matters to discuss at the next 6 monthly AGM:**
Appoint chair, Continued use of compost bins. Decision on quotes for Polly tunnel racking. Unused plots/messy – removal of tenancy with notice. Budget, future projects and purchases. Rats.
- 6. Next meeting date:** 16th May 2025 at 6.30pm
- 7. Close of meeting:** 7.40pm