



Meeting of the Allotment Holders with Members of the East Peckham Allotment Panel held at the Jubilee Hall Meeting Room on 16th May 2025 at 6.30pm

Assistant Clerk – J. Perretta 12.05.25

Minutes

1. Present: Cllr M. Joannes, allotment holders C. Norton, L. Fisher, S. Barth, A. Blunt & Assistant Clerk J. Perretta.

2. Apologies: D. Seal (holiday), 2 x allotment holders.

3. To approve minutes from meeting held 18th October 2024.

Approved by M. Joannes, Seconded by L. Fisher, Agreed with a show of hands.

4. To appoint committee chair; It was agreed to appoint M. Joannes as chair.

Approved by L. Fisher, Seconded by S. Barth, Agreed with a show of hands

Items to discuss:

- **Allotment rent increase + Budget for 2025 – 2026.** JP shared budget costs for 2024 – 2025. Annual budget was £500.00, Total spend was £659.77, causing an overspend of £159.77. This was due to pest control requirements (rats). It was agreed that future pest control is to be carried out by allotment holders. Ideas put forward, curry & chilli powder. Annual rent for a full plot is now £44.00 & £27.50 for half a plot. Any plot that was once a full plot & was split into a half plot will also cost £27.50. Annual budget for 2025 – 2026 is £700.00. Water fees are an additional cost to the PC.
- **Maintenance update** – Allotment holders have reported rubbish being left on plots. This is to be removed daily, to prevent rats & it blowing around the land.

- **Polly tunnel use & door** – JP has looked at the Polly tunnel and found racking has been pressed against the plastic causing some damage. It was agreed all racking etc must not touch the Polly tunnel cover. It was agreed a new catch would be fitted on the Polly tunnel door to prevent people getting stuck. It was agreed that allotment holders would manage internal areas themselves, sharing space. Old pots, rubbish, planters etc are to be removed. The Polly tunnel door must be closed behind you to prevent seed damage when it is cool. The last person using the tunnel should be closing & securing this behind you.
- **To discuss & resolve change of padlock code**; It was resolved to change the padlock code as of 19.05.25. This code must not be shared with anyone other than the plot holder & spouse/partner. It is possible that unauthorised people are gaining entry.
Proposed by, L. Fisher, Seconded by A. Blunt, Agreed by a show of hands
- **Update on plots & waiting list** – JP confirmed all plots have tenants. 3 unattended plots have new tenants. We have 1 person on the waiting list.
- **Update on Wormery & wild flower bed**; M. Joannes has confirmed the wormery is a work in progress & will update the committee at the next meeting. The wild flower area has not been a success so far. S. Barth has agreed to sow more seeds. It was agreed that all allotment holders are responsible for watering this communal area.
- **EPPC owned equipment, rules & requirements**; It was confirmed that the EPPC owned equipment will be fixed & maintained by Cllr D. Seal. A notice has been put into the shed with his contact details and rules. It was agreed that if the EPPC mowers are not required by allotment holders, they would be removed. Allotment holders are to notify the PC if they wish to keep them or not. Money in a jar (donated by AH) is for allotment holders to purchase fuel. It was agreed that the last person to use the fuel would replace ready for the next person. The PC is not involved in this process.
The shed is to remain tidy & only used things are to be stored.
- **Discuss & resolve any quotes**: It was discussed to add additional racking inside the Polly tunnel, however it was felt this would not benefit the internal space. No quotes to resolve.
- **To discuss & resolve any issues raised**; Allotment holders have expressed concern around personal items including toys being taken from plots, used & left broken. It was agreed that no other person or persons should go onto another plot without prior permission. No toys, plants, equipment are to be “borrowed” or used. Children are to be visible at all times to prevent them wandering onto plots.
Allotment housekeeping & trough use; The troughs are to be used for watering only & not to wash vegetables. This makes the water dirty & could spread disease etc. It was requested the PC look to install another 2 troughs or a stand pipe. JP will look into costs.
- **To resolve winter water supply shut off date**; It was resolved the allotment holders would notify the PC when they feel they don’t need water. If an allotment holder turns the water on or off, the PC must be notified so we can manage the monthly water instalments.

4. Allotment holders questions/feedback:

C. Norton asked if the annual rent is part of the allotment annual budget. JP explained that any “income” the Parish Council makes, reduces the precept amount we request from TMBC. The precept is then divided by Full Council to cost areas to use for the whole Parish & its residents.

Could the extra piece of land next to the Polly tunnel become another allotment plot. JP has confirmed, Full Council will need to confirm this. Defer until the next meeting.

5. Matters to discuss at the next 6 monthly AGM: Above unresolved points.

6. Next meeting date: 2nd October 2026 at 6.30pm

7. Close of meeting: 7.25pm