



**Humber Avenue Community Allotments
Committee Meeting
Saturday 25th March 2023 @ 11am
Durrington Community Centre
Meeting Minutes**

Present

Judy Kara (JK)
Peter Davey (PD)
Christine Busfield (CB)
Terry Smith (TS)
Hilary Gribble (HG)
Malcolm Hedger (MH)
Ruth Allan (RA)
Roy Olliver (RO)
Linda Head (LH)
Ros Knight (RK)

1. Welcome to Guests

JK welcomed Linda Head and Roz Knight to the meeting as independent plot holders

2. Apologies for absence

None

3. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Proposed by RO seconded by PD

4. Matters arising not covered by agenda

- Defibrillator training action **HG**
- Purchase of chairs and tables **HG & JK**
- Opening up Facebook group will not be pursued **Closed**
- Asbestos WBC organising specialist contractor to collect. **MH & TS** to build new compost bay for plot holder



5. **Chair's Report**

Ken Olliver has resigned as Facebook Administrator. A vote of thanks had been sent to Ken.

The two skips had proved very popular with plot holders. There was no evidence that prohibited items or off site materials had been placed in the skips. Overloading had occurred on the second skip for which we incurred an excess charge. If finances permitted we would repeat again later in the year.

Free Dung had proved very popular with plot holders. £500 had now been raised for Ferring Country Centre.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

The financial position looks healthy. The only concern was the water bill which is due in April. Once this is received we will have a solid set of figures to work on. A proposal to increase the payment for toilet cleaning from £20 to £30 was approved by all present. JK suggested a further review in 6 months' time.

7. **Membership Secretary Report**

All plots are let. There are 88 on the waiting list an increase of 3.

8. **Accessible plot**

New combination lock fitted to shed. Shed roof awaiting felting when weather is warmer. Path adjacent to the plot to be concreted when the weather improves. Cost covered by WBC.

Plot now fully let with a current total base of 17 users. Revenue £110 compared to previous £40. **HG** to establish from Geoff Smith family if they



are happy for the plot to be dedicated in his memory. Plot to be officially opened by WBC Mayor later in the year.

9. **Durrington New Development**

PD gave an overview of the development of the land adjacent to the South West boundary of the allotments. Numerous consultation meetings with interested parties had taken place during the last three weeks. HACA was consulted (PD is the lead on this project) and currently there was a draft plan for an additional 24 plots. The majority being half size (2.5 rods). Allocation was yet to be decided but we already have 11 residents of the development on our waiting list. An online meeting was being held on 27th March 23 when more details should be made available.

10. **Projects**

MH advised that stop cocks were now fitted to all water troughs. This was undertaken by Richard Billingshurst (Plot 99) at no charge. So a big thank you to Richard. The vegetable cabinet is nearing completion. Need to set up sign writing. No other activity until after AGM.

11. **Web site & Facebook**

No response to newsletter call for opinions. Only users appear to be those on the waiting list asking where they are on the list. Further discussion after AGM.

12. **Events-**

HG reported that Tony & Lavinia were lined up to do the cooking and they would buy the food for the Easter Saturday breakfast event, poster and publicity on Facebook & Website. This is a joint event with WAGA. It was decided to cancel the Coronation event and organise a 'Party on the Plot' jointly with WAGA for later in the year, **HG** to talk to WAGA. RHS Wisley trip to be discussed after AGM.



13. **AGM**

Call for motions and applications for committee and directors sent out in accordance with the HACA Constitution. Steve McKenna WBC invited to present on the new allotments. Room booked from 19.00 to 22.00. Meeting 19.30 to 21.30. Agenda to early April.

14. **SLA**

The draft agreement is now with WBC Solicitor. Due to an extended leave of sickness for our main contact at WBC there could be a slight delay in drafting of the final document for signing. It was agreed that a delay until after the AGM was acceptable. **TS** to advise WBC accordingly.

15. **Revised T & C**

These were circulated to committee members prior to the meeting for any final comments. None were forthcoming, so they will be issued to Tenants prior to the AGM and approval sought at the AGM

16. **Plot Inspections**

Plot inspections take place from April until September. MH & CB undertook a preliminary inspection against the cultivation standard and observed that 67 plots are well cultivated, 26 have started cultivation and 10 have no signs of activity. The first formal inspection will be undertaken by **CB & MH** prior to the AGM.

17. **AOB**

We are required to display an Emergency Telephone number on the notice board. It was agreed that this would be done after the AGM. **CB** volunteered her number as she lived the closest to site.

18. **Date of Next Meeting**

After AGM possibly return to bi-monthly meetings.