

25/02/15

Minutes of the Eastry Allotments Committee meeting held at the Parish Room on Tuesday 24th February 2015.

Present: Councillors: M.Kemp M Pemble

Appointed members: R.Barwick (Chairman) P Bailey (Secretary)

One Allotment holder/member of the public

1. Apologies

J Kemp.

2. Declaration of Interest.

All those present are allotment holders.

3. The committee meeting was closed to enable allotment holders/members of the public to speak or ask questions.

There were no questions.

4. Minutes of the last committee meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 28th October 2014 were agreed and signed by the chairman.

5. Actions of the Last Meeting.

- a) There had been advertising of vacant allotment plots in the Eastry Village News but there was still several vacant plots so it was agreed that mention should be made at the forthcoming Eastry Parish Council AGM and an A5 leaflet should be prepared to be made available at that event. **Action secretary.**
- b) The committee agreed that the purchase should go ahead of the selected strimmer and they also agreed with the storage suggestion from the parish council. **Action secretary/Parish council...**
- c) It was accepted that little could be done regarding the vast majority of the trees, on private property, bordering the May Mill site, though Martin Kemp would strive to speak to the owner of one offending tree. With regard to the School site, and the trees/shrubs bordering it with the Gun park, it was agreed that the secretary should arrange to meet the clerk to the parish council to discuss what we would like done there and the disposal of the removed materials. **Action Councillor M. Kemp and secretary.**
- d) It was agreed that wooden posts should be purchased to mark out the unusual shaped and smaller plots on the May Mill site. An estimate for 50 had been obtained amounting to £51, permission should be obtained to purchase these. **Action secretary.**
- e) Although the water supply was currently suspended for the winter it was agreed that those taps against the outside fencing should have a shield to prevent them being turned on from outside the allotments. **Item ongoing.**
- f) All rentals were eventually received from those plot holders wishing to continue with their tenancies. **Item discharged.**
- g) It was agreed that the "vehicle access restriction notices" should remain until the ground within the allotment sites was firmer. **Item ongoing.**

6. Allotment Managements.

- a) The committee had received a request, from an allotment holder, via the clerk to the parish council, for permission to erect a shed on their plot it was agreed there was no objection, providing the spirit of the final sentence of clause 3.10 of their tenancy agreement was adhered to. **Action secretary.**
- b) The committee were pleased to hear that the Parish council had stated that there would be no increase in the plot rental when it became due at the end of September this year, though it could not accept the suggestion, from the chairman of the parish council, that future rental increases should be determined by this committee. It was felt that this went beyond our responsibilities. **Item ongoing.**
- c) It was agreed that the water supply would remain switched off until the weather improved. **Item ongoing.**
- d) The committee agreed that plot holders should be discouraged from keeping any valuable items or tools in sheds or on their allotments as it was still possible for unauthorised individuals to gain access to the sites. It was also felt that several of the padlocks on the May Mill site were getting worn and new ones should be obtained to replace them including the currently seized ordinary one on the “five bar gate”. **Action secretary.**
- e) Any other business
 - i) There had been suggestions from plot holders that a barbeque should be held again this year so it was agreed that a notice would be put on the board to establish support. **Action secretary.**
 - ii) A request had been received to use a part of the May Mill site, not being used as an allotment, for temporary storage of a delivery of manure that was to be shared by a number of plot holders, permission was given. **Item discharged.**
 - iii) The committee agreed to attempt to redraw the existing map of plots on the May Mill site as it was somewhat incorrect. **Action chairman.**
 - iv) A request from a property close the School site had asked to be able to gain vehicle access to the “roadway” by the site when they have a cherry tree removed from their property. It was agreed that a key to the “Five bar gate” would be loaned to them once we had replaced the “seized padlock (See item 6d). **Action Chairman.**

6. Correspondence.

None had been received

7. Date and time of next meeting.

It is was agreed that the next committee meeting should take place in April 2015 date and time to be agreed.

Approved by Chairman:

Date: