

## LYNDHURST PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Allotment Committee was held in on Tuesday 3 November 2015 at 7.00 pm in Lyndhurst Community Centre

**Present:** Mr A Wiltshire, Mr K Kaljura and Mr S Se-upara.

**In Attendance:** Mrs M Weston (Clerk to the Council)

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Rollé and Mrs H Klaassen.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

Mr Wiltshire and Mr Se-Upara declared interests as allotment holders.

### 3. Public Participation

None.

### 4. Minutes of Previous Committee Meeting

The minutes of the Allotment meeting held on Saturday, 22 June 2015, having been circulated, were signed as a true and accurate record.

### 5. Matters Arising

It was noted that work to the allotment fencing had now taken place.

Mr Se-Upara and Mr Wiltshire agreed to look at the noticeboards and ascertain if any remedial action was necessary.

### 6. Work/Activities Completed or Pending in Current Financial Year

#### (a) Track

Mr Wiltshire reported that that further work would be undertaken voluntarily by himself and Mr Timmis to ensure that the track remained in good order. The only costs involved would be for materials.

**RESOLVED:** That the necessary work be undertaken by Kevin Bennett as soon as practical.

#### (b) Plot Clearance and Maintenance

Kevin Bennett has strimmed two plots and these have now been tenanted. Mr Wiltshire and Kevin Bennett have also undertaken clearance work on another plot which has also been tenanted. Other work will be undertaken as it becomes necessary.

#### (c) Inspections

Mr Wiltshire and the Clerk had conducted one allotment inspection as a result of which several letters had been sent to plot holders to enquire whether they wished to keep their plot and to remind them of their responsibilities regarding the upkeep of their plots. Another inspection would take place once it had been determined if any plot holders would not be renewing their tenancies.

One tenant had indicated to Mr Wiltshire that they hadn't made their mind up whether to renew and it was agreed that they be given until the end of November at which time they would again be asked for their fees or to consider taking on a smaller plot. Failure to comply would mean they would be asked to vacate their plot.

*(d) Vermin Control*

Mr Wiltshire reported that there was very little evidence of vermin in the allotments apart from on one plot where prevailing conditions made it difficult to deal with the problem. However, he did mention that he had not seen the representative from Ringwood Pest Control on site recently.

**RESOLVED:** That the Clerk contact Ringwood Pest Control to ensure that they visited the allotment gardens on a regular basis.

*(e) Prevention of Dogs Entering Top Gate*

Mr Wiltshire reported that he had gained the necessary permissions from the Verderers and the Forestry Commission in order to carry out the work on the open forest that would be necessary to prevent dogs entering the top gate of the allotment gardens. It was noted that dogs were not allowed in the allotments and signs had been placed on the outside of the gates to indicate this fact. However, the onus lay with the Parish Council to prevent this happening. Work would take place shortly.

*(f) Re-allocation of Plots*

There had been a good uptake of plots and the Committee continued to endeavour to rent out plots where there was the most existing uptake in order to maintain continuity, thus leaving parts that were waterlogged vacant for the foreseeable future.

**7. Budget Recommendation for 2016/17 Financial Year**

Discussion took place regarding spending in the current financial year, income from plot rental and the Precept request for the financial year commencing 1 April 2016.

**RESOLVED:** That the following precept recommendation be made:

Description	Income 2015/16	Budget 2015/16	Actual/Projected Spend 2015/16	Budget 2016/17
Amount b/f	8994.64			
Precept	4500.00			
Income	2800.00			
Room hire/sundries		100.00	50.00	50.00
Fencing		2000.00	120.00	1400.00
Plot numbering/signage				
Water		400.00	260.00	400.00
Grasscutting - paths		350.00	300.00	350.00
Rent		550.00	700.00	700.00
Tracks		500.00	500.00	500.00
Pest Control		650.00	650.00	650.00
Plot clearance/regeneration		1000.00	1300.00	1500.00
Hedging and ditching		1200.00	1200.00	1200.00
Noticeboard maintenance		100.00	150.00	100.00
Asbestos Removal				
Total		6850.00		6850.00
Estimated Income	16294.64	2350.00		2350.00
<b>Budget Requirement/Spend</b>		<b>4500.00</b>	<b>5230.00</b>	<b>4500.00</b>

**8. Any Other Business**

Mr Wiltshire said that there was a written ruling that newly erected sheds could not be any larger than 6ft x 4ft. He did not consider this to be large enough and recommended that the rules be changed to allow for a shed 6ft x 8ft in size.

**RESOLVED:** That the Terms and Conditions be altered to allow for a larger size shed 6ft x 8ft and that polytunnels and polycarbonate greenhouses would be considered, bearing in mind plot size. If space permitted the Terms and Conditions would be displayed in the noticeboards.

In the absence of any other business the Chairman thanked those present for attending and closed the meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Date