

WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Allotment Committee Meeting held on Monday 20th March 2023 at 7.30pm at Hooper's Field Sports Facility

Present: Bob Biggs (Chairman) Dave Hayward, Donna Stalker (Wanborough Parish Councillors) Val Curtis (Covingham Parish Councillor), Freddie Day (Representative)

In Attendance: Georgia Wheeler (Assistant Parish Clerk), Lorraine Sandle and 5 members of public

Minute Ref:
AC/03/23/

1. Apologies: Joe Smith (Parish Councillor)
2. Declaration of interest: Dave Hayward (Parish Councillor) interest as an allotment holder

THE MEETING WILL BE ADJOURNED FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

No questions

3. Minutes of previous meeting held on 14th November 2022 confirmed
4. Update on vacant plots
The Assistant Clerk informed the committee that one plot has just become vacant today and will be offered to the next on the waiting list this week.
 - 4.1. Waiting list
The Assistant Clerk informed the committee that there are currently 7 Covingham residents on the waiting list and 3 Wanborough residents.
5. To review Allotment Reps Report and agree if any action needs to be taken
No report had taken place due to lack of criteria under current Wanborough Road closure circumstances. It was agreed that a report will take place after Easter 2023 (to allow time for holders to start working plots) and emailed to committee members to review. It was agreed going forward reports should take place before each committee meeting (quarterly) with criteria being same as previously.
ACTION: Representative to report after Easter break 2023. Assistant clerk and committee members to review report by the end of April 2023.
 - 5.1 To confirm brief of Allotment Representative
Members agreed with brief however thought specific guidance was needed due to holders having problems accessing the site with Wanborough Road closure.
6. Date of next meeting
Scheduled for 12th June pending confirmation that does not clash with another Parish meeting.
ACTION: Assistant clerk to confirm no clashes with Parish meetings.

7. Annual Meeting 2023

Members discussed how to increase participation from plot holders due to previous years having low numbers. It was agreed that new options for the event should be explored, and questions should be raised with plot holders.

ACTION: Assistant clerk to enquire whether the annual meeting is an official council meeting or can be a social and report back to committee. Assistant clerk to ask plot holders via Facebook and The Lyden if they would like an annual meeting.

8. Annual Competition 2023

The group discussed the difficulty in holding a competition at present as the previous judge has now resigned. There was discussion about whether holders would want a competition this year due to difficulty accessing plots with Wanborough Road closure.

ACTION: Bob Biggs and Dave Hayward to search for a new judge.

9. Wanborough Road Closure Update

It was reported that a recent meeting between Conlon and the Parish confirmed that Wanborough Road will be closed until at least July with no cycle or pedestrian access for safety reasons.

10. Securing Site (future and interim plans)

The committee confirmed that the Parish were not able to source the funds for the metal fencing that was quoted. It was advised that the Parish instead agreed to reinstating hedging plants. It was agreed more signage was needed to close the gate as an initial measure.

ACTION: Order more gate signage. Chase the installation of hedging plants.

Meeting closed 20.50.