

## WANBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Wanborough Parish Council Footpaths, Village Maintenance and Allotments Committee meeting held on **4 August 2009** in Hooper's Field Pavilion, Wanborough at 19:30.

**PRESENT:** Mr B Biggs, (Chairman), Mr D Hayward, Mrs K Pearson, Mr W J Smith, Dr A Phillipson (Secretary).

Item	Action
<b>1</b> Apologies: Mr G Sumner. Declaration of interest: Mr D Hayward, Mrs K Pearson and Dr A Phillipson all declared personal interests in agenda item 2, Allotments as they each rent allotments at Wanborough.	
<b>2</b> Minutes:	
2.1 Letting & waiting lists: The waiting list for allotments at Wanborough currently stands at 12 from Wanborough and 16 from Covingham. It was agreed that all tenants, particularly those with more than one whole plot, would be asked to consider voluntarily relinquishing whole or half plots so that the demand for allotments could be met from the existing site. A form of words to be used is to be sent to the Clerk for inclusion with the annual invoices and invitation to the annual allotment holders meeting. DH stated he was uncomfortable with the current procedure of excluding Covingham residents until there were none from Wanborough waiting for plots and suggested that the original agreement with SBC should be checked to see if it covered this point. It was decided in the meantime that the policy of allocating plots to Wanborough residents before those from Covingham should continue. The likelihood of finding plots for the 12 applicants from Wanborough was considered slim, therefore, a letter is to be sent to Covingham PC advising them that it is highly unlikely that any more plots will be allocated to Covingham residents in the foreseeable future and suggest that they might consider finding land within their own boundary for allotments.	AP  Clerk  Clerk
2.2 Operating costs: It was decided that it was in keeping with Wanborough's rural heritage to continue measuring and invoicing allotments in square feet. A range of options for increasing rents is to be drawn up so that the implications on the different size of plots can be considered before recommending an appropriate increase to the Planning & Finance Committee in readiness for April 2010. It was decided that the administration costs associated with the allotments should be calculated and that Covingham Parish Council is requested to make annual payments towards those costs on a pro rata basis.	DH  Clerk
2.3 Acquisition of new land for allotments: A range of options for acquiring additional land for allotments was discussed	

including the possibility of land closer to Upper Wanborough. It was decided that the number of residents from Wanborough waiting for allotments did not justify significant capital expenditure but that the possibility of expanding the existing site should be investigated. The owner of the field adjacent to the southern edge of the existing site is to be approached informally to ascertain whether it might be possible, in principle, to rent part of that field. Access to the site and provision of water would be via the car park of the present allotment site.

WJS

- 2.4 Conditions of allotments and periodic inspections: Inspections have been carried out at no more than six monthly intervals by members of the committee. Conditions are steadily improving and are generally acceptable. Previous mistakes in the manner of requesting allotment holders to tidy their plots seem not to have been repeated recently and the Clerk is to continue sending the letter now in use, should it become necessary.

- 3 Footpaths: The material for completing the surfacing of Green Lane is on site and Mr Malcolm Hinton is ready to complete the job. Recent bad weather has delayed the work which will be done as soon as conditions allow.

Very few members of the Committee have copies of the map showing footpath numbers. Copies of the map are to be made and given to committee members at the next full Council meeting.

DH

Meeting closed at 21:00

Next meeting to be scheduled at a later date.

BB