



Minutes for the Allotment Committee Meeting of Yeovil Without Parish Council held at Yeovil Sports & Social Club, Johnson Park on 22 February 2023 at 7.30pm

Present – Kevin Brown, Daniella Brown, Michaela Brown, Iris Coton, Ruth Foster, Phil Hobbs (Chair), John Orchard and Colin Rose

In attendance - Barbara Appleby (Clerk)

Members of the Public – None

AC1/23 Apologies

Apologies were received from Poly Hutchinson

Committee **RECOMMENDED** to accept the apology.

Not present – Martin Smith (notice to relinquished allotment on plot 31 Mar 23)

AC 2/23 Declaration of Interest

The following members declared personal interests as allotment tenants – Kevin Brown, Daniella Brown, Michaela Brown, Ruth Foster, Phil Hobbs and John Orchard.

Kevin Brown and John Orchard members of YWPC – Personal

AC 3/23 Allotment Committee Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2022 were **APPROVED** as a true record.

AC 4/23 Public Participation

There were no members of the press or public present

AC 5/23. Update from YMAS

- i. Minutes of the YMAS meeting held on 9th January 2023 were **NOTED**, matters raised would be discussed under agenda items.
- ii. Forthcoming events – It was **AGREED** that the council would be informed of any planned events before the commencement date.
- iii The committee **NOTED** the updated allotment improvement programme and that there were no immediate plans for improvements outside what is agreed at the Allotment Committee Meetings.

- AC 6 /23 Agenda Item 10 brought forward to discuss 23/24 maintenance works.**
The committee **UNANIMOUSLY RESOVLED** the following maintenance works:
- a. Removing existing north fence to allow access between the new and old allotments.
 - b. Continue with the ongoing replacement fencing, and water repair. works – costs to be sent to the clerk to verify against budget.
- AC 7/23 Allotment Inspections**
The committee **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** that inspections of the allotments would take place in March, June and October every year and completed by PH/CR/BA – BA in conjunction with PH would follow up any actions resulting from the inspections.
- AC 8/23 Waiting List**
The committee **NOTED** that the existing waiting list may not be complete, and a revised waiting list will be sent out as soon as possible.
- AC 9/23 Plots**
The committee **NOTED** the following:
- i. Following completion of the March inspections, an up-to-date list of rented, available plots and condition of plots will be processed.
 - ii. The new plots (17) will be available for rental from 1/4/23, plots will be made good as and when they are rented.
 - iii. BA to inform YMAS of new tenants.
- AC 10/23 Allotment Rent 2023/2024**
The committee **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** the following:
Rent Apr 23 – Mar 25
- i. New and future tenants rent £20 per plot.
 - ii. Existing tenants – notice to increase rent to £20 per plot from Apr 24
 - iii. Rent for existing tenants 23/24 will increase to £17.50 as per 506a ii
 - iv. Next rent review (Year 25/26) to take place between Jan 24 – Sep 24
- AC 11/23 Environment matters**
The committee **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED**:
- i. **Allotment Environment** – (1) to support wildlife and ensure a balance eco-system that will reduce pests and diseases and increase productivity pollinators. (2) To submit details and costs to the Environment Committee for the consideration of a substantial planting (hedging and trees) plan within the allotments, to support the wildlife and improve the allotment environment.
 - ii. **YTC environment grant and report**
The committee **NOTED** the Yeovil Rivers Trust report received and requested further clarification was required. **PH** to contact YRT directly about report, **BA** to review the September grant application and action as necessary.

iii Licence for the storage of manure

The committee **NOTED** the response received from the Environment Agency, and that the conditions of storage met with regulations (inspection ensured that no waste matter can leak into the surrounding land) and a licence was not required. (Evidence of storage shown at end of the minutes)

AC 12/23 Allotment Track

The Committee **NOTED** the safety concerns that were raised, and that further guidance/advice would be sort to establish if to non-compliance to maintenance requests could be considered an act of obstruction.

AC 13/23 Update from Full Council

i.The Committee **NOTED** the 2023/2024 YWPC allotment maintenance budget of £2,000.

ii.The Committee **NOTED** the introduction of the Edge IT Allotment Management Software approved by YWPC council.

Meeting closed 9.11pm

Chair Date

AC 11/23 iii cont. Storage of manure

