

## GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the Allotments Sub-Committee held at Richmond House,  
Richmond Park, Gainsborough on Tuesday 28 June 2016 at 6.30pm

**Present:** Simon Nicholson - Spital Hill (In the Chair)

Councillor Keith Panter  
Councillor Michael Hopper (arrived late)  
Councillor David Dobbie (arrived late)  
Councillor Sharon Hopkinson  
Carol Richardson - Showfield  
Dick Parkin - Love Lane  
Peter Arthy - Foxby Hill  
Graham Thomas - North Warren

**In Attendance:**

Matthew Gleadell Clerk  
Sean Alcock Operations Manager

**Also Present:** 3 members of the public

**1. TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Simon Nicholson as Chairman of the Allotments Sub-Committee.

**2. TO ELECT A VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE ENSUING YEAR**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Peter Arthy as Vice Chairman of the Allotments Sub-Committee.

**3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & REASONS GIVEN**

Councillor Clio Perraton-Williams

**RESOLVED** to accept apologies received and reasons given.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

All Secretaries agreed that they all had a pecuniary interest in their own allotment site but it was agreed that they would stay in the meeting to advise of any issues on their site. The Clerk granted a dispensation for this purpose.

**5. MINUTES**

i. Minutes of the meeting of the Allotments Sub-Committee held Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meetings held Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016 be approved as a correct record.

**6. SHOWFIELD ALLOTMENTS - MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING**

**RESOLVED** to accept Carol Richardson as the new secretary of the Showfield Allotments.

Carol Richardson thanked the Council for the new gate.

Carol reported that the site had been clearing some excess rubbish recently and had used a couple of skips. Carol explained that they had recently had some hardcore but required abit more. Sean Alcock agreed to organise this accordingly.

Note : Dick Parkin arrived at 6.40pm

Carol explained that the bucket for the well and new longer rope is working and that therefore the need for a pump can be placed on hold. Carol also explained that more people were collecting rain water from guttering on their sheds.

Carol reported a problem with some trees overhanging the allotment that belonged to ACIS. Carol is concerned about them falling and causing injury. Sean Alcock agreed to investigate.

**7. FOXBY HILL ALLOTMENTS – MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING**

Peter Arthy reported that the site had no problems currently. Peter reported that his site had adopted formal constitution and now had a full working committee with a community bank account. Peter explained that they are now looking to set up a fund raising committee and on the whole the process is working well.

**8. SPITAL HILL ALLOTMENTS - MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING**

Simon Nicholson thanked the Council for dealing with the trees.

Simon explained that he had not yet been able to collect any palin fences from the Council.

Simon stressed that there was a huge issue with the aftermath of the tree work. The issues are presenting significant health and safety concerns and relates to the chainlink fencing on Cox`s Hill requiring some repair. Sean Alcock explained that he already had some straining wires for the repairs and is waiting for his colleague to return from leave who will undertake this work.

**9. LOVE LANE ALLOTMENTS - MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING**

Dick Parkin reported that all is OK that he may have a couple of gardens that may need strimming but on the whole everything is OK.

**10. NORTH WARREN ALLOTMENTS – MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING**

Graham Thomas reported a couple of break-ins. Simon Nicholson enquired if the Clerk had been contacted regarding this matter. The Clerk explained that he had not. Peter Arthy explained that on his sites they have cameras that all tenants contribute to. Peter urged all Allotment Sites to continue to report incidents to 101 and that in his experience the Police have taken an interest.

## 11. MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF ALLOTMENTS

Note: Councillor Dobbie arrived at 6.45 pm

Note: Councillor Hopper arrived at 6.50 pm

Other members confirmed that they had received the Clerks paper on this issue. The Clerk explained his paper to the members. Peter Arthy confirmed he was in favour of the approach proposed by the Clerk.

Simon Nicholson and Dick Parkin confirmed they opposed the proposals for their own sites.

There was detailed discussion around the advantages and disadvantages of the proposal from the Clerk.

It was confirmed by the Clerk that not all sites would have to go down this road if they did not wish to do so.

**RESOLVED** to the Allotment Sub Committee should recommend to Community Services Committee that the Foxby Hill Allotment Site be allowed to investigate and negotiate proceeding with a new management structure as outlined in the Clerks paper and that the sub committee would support other sites pursuing this new form of management structure should they wish to do so in the future.

The Clerk highlighted a need to undertake an Audit of all plots to get a record of the condition of each site in order to assist in going forward with enforcement action against any tenants that fail to comply with the new terms and conditions. The Clerk explained he had a quote to have the work done by a third party. It was agreed however that the allotment secretaries would be willing to undertake the Audit.

**RESOLVED** that the Allotment Secretaries will undertake an Audit of all plots and the Clerk would forward them the relevant documentation to do so accordingly.