

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a MEETING of the Allotments Sub-Committee held at Richmond House,
Richmond Park, Gainsborough on Tuesday 30 January 2018 at 6.30pm

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

Councillor Harry Clarke
Councillor Keith Panter
Carol Richardson - Showfields
Graham Thomas - North Warren
Richard Parkin - Love Lane
Peter Arthy – Foxby Hill

In Attendance:

Rachel Allbones Deputy Clerk to the Council
Sean Alcock Operations Manager

Also Present: 3 members of the public

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & REASONS GIVEN

Councillor David Dobbie

RESOLVED to accept the apologies received and reasons given.

2. 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 Deputy Clerk granted a dispensation for this purpose.

3. MINUTES (Paper A)

i. Minutes of the meeting of Allotments Sub-Committee Tuesday 31 October 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Allotments Sub-Committee held on Tuesday 31 October 2017 were approved as a correct record.

4. SHOWFIELD ALLOTMENTS - MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING

No matters were reported save for ongoing petty thieving.

The Operations Manager advised that the survey of the wall will be carried out at the beginning of February.

5. SPITAL HILL ALLOTMENTS - MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING

Simon requested that the top end of the hedge on Spital Hill be cut as well. The Operations Manager advised he would arrange that.

Simon informed Members he had a visit from Anglian Water checking all water sources comply with regulations and was please to advise they did at Spital Hill.

The Deputy Clerk advised that Hickman Hill Hotel was under new management and wanted to display a banner on the fence of the Spital Hill Allotment site on Cox's Hill.

Simon advised that the fence isn't particularly sturdy, but he had no objections, and sure others wouldn't but would ask around.

6. LOVE LANE ALLOTMENTS - MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING

Richard expressed that the grounds staff had done the Council proud with the support they had given him recently, and thanked the Operations Manager for the new gates.

Richard requested some Gorse bushes for the corner of the allotments. The Operations Manager advised he would look into prices.

7. NORTH WARREN ALLOTMENTS – MANAGEMENT MATTERS ARISING

Graham advised that the Environmental Health department from WLDC had attended the allotments and were happy with the procedures to combat rat infestation.

Graham thanked the Council for the new gates, but questioned when the site clearance would be happening. The Operations Manager advised that he is currently looking for another contractor due to the first one who was awarded the contract pulling out.

8. ALLOTMENT BUDGETS (Paper)

The Deputy Clerk gave members an overview of the allotment budgets and available financial resources. Secretaries were encouraged to identify relevant projects for which funds could be used.

9. FOXBY HILL ALLOTMENT

Peter advised that since becoming self managed gardeners from the site have got on board with improving the site and sorting out the boundary.

A fourth successful prosecution had come from cameras on the site.

Peter requested, as per sub-lease, for some man hours to assist in cutting the hedge sympathetically. The Operations Manager advised that it would be included within the grounds schedule of works.

10. MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR ALLOTMENT SITES

Simon asked what happened to Council providing water for each allotment site? Most sites seem happy with their well and water collection procedures.

Simon expressed that the Spital Hill site was experiencing some difficulty in getting plot holders to assist in the site grass cutting.

The Operations Manager advised that the grounds maintenance team could schedule into their maintenance plan cuts to main large areas on allotment site, and advised Secretaries to contact him if they are in need of assistance.

The meeting concluded at 7.01pm.