

## WINTERTON ALLOTMENT GROUP

Meeting Friday 12<sup>TH</sup> January 2018 in The Old School Hall at 7.00 pm

Present: Miss Lisa Newstead (Town Clerk)  
Mr M Hill  
Mrs S McGregor  
Mrs L Rodrigues  
Ms L Cellini  
Mr J Waites  
Mr R M Ellis  
Mr I Knight  
Mr J Chidwick  
Mrs J Doughty  
Mr K Howden  
Cllr L Cawsey  
Mrs A Root (note taker)

1. Welcome: The town clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Cllr Linda Cawsey as the Co-ordinator of the Incredible Edible project which has been introduced to the town last year.
2. Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr D Johnson, Mr R Williams, Ms Sandra Joyce and Ms Kerrie Prowting.
3. Recap of actions from previous meetings:
  - i) Payment of this year's tenancy fee can be made to AR at this meeting
  - ii) Poles to be used to mark the perimeter of each allotment plot have been placed on order
  - iii) Plots 3, 6, 7 and 17 have been reallocated to people who were on the waiting list, two of which were in attendance at this meeting
  - iv) LN thanked Mrs Doughty for the pictures of the flooding which had occurred last year
4. Points raised by the Council:
  - i) LN asked if the group would like to be involved in activities for National Allotment week, 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> August. The main aim of which would be to encourage everyone to grow something.  
We could hold an 'Open Morning/Afternoon' and/or ask the Scunthorpe Telegraph to come along to take some pictures of the site and its produce. Cllr Cawsey said that her husband occasionally cooks meals for the community in the Church, ie Burns Night and Harvest suppers. If any Allotment Holder wished to donate any of their produce for use in the suppers, it would be very gratefully received. KH said that some allotments in Scunthorpe hold open days for Primary School children. SM suggested that some produce could be offered for sale and any monies raised donated to a nominated charity.
  - ii) LN explained the details contained in the letter which has recently been sent out to the schools and all gardening related groups, inviting them to work with the Winterton In Bloom group. The benefits for groups agreeing to join would be working together on larger projects, sourcing funding, pooling of ideas and volunteers as well as helping to make our town more colourful, clean and pleasant to live in. The group voted to join and LN asked if anyone was willing to write an article on behalf of the Allotment holders for inclusion in the 4-page colour supplement which will be included in the OAAIW magazine which is being paid for by Winterton 2022. Anyone wishing to do this should contact the Town Council office staff.  
Mr Hill mentioned that the Chairman of the gardening group, at their last meeting, had indicated that he wasn't aware of the Winterton In Bloom group. LN said that she would make contact with him again as she had already had discussions with him last year.
  - iii) LN advised everyone that the National Allotment Association's website holds a great deal of information. She said that if the group wished, she could ask the Town Council if they would pay the £55 + VAT for us to become a member. To that end, she requested that members take a look at the website and decide whether it would be beneficial to be a member before the next meeting. However, Mr Waites said he thought that you can gather information from the website without having to pay the membership fee.

- iv) LN asked if the Allotment Group would wish to be involved at the In Bloom presentation event later this year. Would members be willing to make something from their allotment produce, jam/chutney etc which could be sold at the presentation event as 'Produced in Winterton'? Anyone with ideas or willing to donate some of their produce should contact the Council to discuss this further.

5. Points raised by the allotment holders:

- i) It was again reported that the ditch at the back of plots 6 and 7 remains blocked and needs clearing out. Action: Clearance work required
- ii) Mr Knight reported that the tap box next to plot 8 needs to be repaired. Action: Repair required
- iii) Mr Knight asked if it is known what is being erected on plot 24 as it appears that some metal framework has been brought on to the site. Action: This will be investigated.
- iv) Mrs Rodrigues asked how to apply to erect a shed on her plot. She was asked to put her request in writing to the Town Council office so that it can be considered.
- v) Mr Ellis asked if the Town Council and members are aware that there is another Allotment group within Winterton. Action: No-one knew of anything but enquiries will be made.
- vi) Mr Hill and Mr Howden suggested that the people who had taken over the gardening plot at the side of the Alms Houses on West Street should be invited to join the Allotment group. Action: the people will be contacted by the Town Council office staff.

6. Any Other Business:

- i) Cllr Cawsey spoke on her findings towards the end of last year with regard to the Incredible Edible project. She acknowledged that the wooden boxes which have been made and sited around the town are not ideal in that they are not wide enough but far too deep. There has been a general lack of interest, however she is working on encouraging townsfolk to become involved. She is especially hoping to encourage the youngsters however she acknowledged that this is a problem across all groups within the town. The people currently involved with the Show, the bonfire, the Christmas events, the allotments, the gardening related groups are all of the older generations with very few young people volunteering their help. Cllr Cawsey is hoping to work with the schools and Guides/Scouts groups to nurture an interest in gardening and growing things.  
The Winterton 2022 group, which funds the Incredible Edible project, has offered to take any interested residents to Todmorden to view the Incredible Edible project work being done there. Transport and lunch will be provided free of charge if anyone wishes to attend. Interested parties should contact the Town Council office who will liaise with Winterton 2022 on their behalf.  
Cllr Cawsey also appealed for help and support in the form of bulbs, plants, cuttings, etc. It is hoped that the whole project could be self-sustaining so that it can carry on after the funding ceases so any donations will be gratefully accepted. Donations can be left at Cllr Cawsey's house or at the Town Council office.
- ii) LN announced that the Town Council has registered to take part in the Keep Britain Tidy campaign which is to take place over the weekend, 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> March 2018. This will be undertaken in partnership with the schools, the Grangefield committee and Ongo. Volunteers are needed to help litter-pick every area of the town. In past years, some people volunteered to clear the area around where they live. The Town Council can provide: gloves, black bags, picker sticks, etc along with removal and disposal of everything collected. If you wish to volunteer or help out in any way, please liaise with the Town Council office.
- iii) LN reminded those who haven't yet signed up for the Smart Water initiative that they can still apply. Anyone who needs an application form is asked to contact the Town Council office.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 7.00 pm in the Winterton Community Pavilion