

WINTERTON ALLOTMENT GROUP

Meeting Friday 13TH April 2018 in Winterton Community Pavilion at 7.00 pm

Present: Miss Lisa Newstead (Town Clerk)
Mr M Hill
Mrs S McGregor
Ms L Cellini and Phil
Mr R M Ellis
Mr I Knight
Mr J Chidwick
Mr K Howden
Mr R Williams
Mrs A Root (note taker)

1. Welcome: The town clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr D Johnson, Mrs J Doughty, Mr & Mrs S Clayton, Mr J Waites and Ms L Rodrigues. Mr Howden reported that as previously agreed, he had invited Mr Thomas, the holder of the garden plot on West Street, to join the meeting but unfortunately he was unable to attend this evening but has indicated that he will hopefully be able to attend future meetings.
3. Recap of actions from previous meetings:
 - i) It was agreed to participate in the National Allotment Week activities. The Scunthorpe Telegraph will be invited to attend on the afternoon of Saturday 18th August to report and photograph produce which will be ready at that time.
 - ii) LN asked for volunteers to write a small paragraph on their experience as an allotment holder for inclusion in the next Out 'n About in Winterton magazine as part of the Winterton In Bloom project. KH and LC both agreed to prepare something for inclusion.
 - iii) It was agreed to discuss the finer detail of the involvement of the allotment holders in the Winterton In Bloom Presentation which is to be held on 30th September, at the next meeting.
4. Points raised by the Council:
 - i) Permission has recently been given to erect a shed on plot 3.
 - ii) Following the query at the last meeting, the tenant of plot 24 had been in touch to confirm he was erecting a frame to hold a net to cover his fruit bushes.
 - iii) Moles – A mole catcher using traps had been employed by the Town Council in the past but he no longer offers this service. The Council had given thought to training their staff to use the traps but then made the decision to deal with moles humanely by raking over the holes and not killing them. In view of this decision, staff are monitoring the situation so any information and/or feedback would be appreciated.
5. Points raised by the allotment holders:
 - i) It was again reported that the ditch at the back of plots 6, 7 and 8 remains partially blocked and needs clearing out again. LN agreed to discuss this further with the owner of the adjacent land.
Action: LN
 - ii) Photographs of the recent flooding of several plots were circulated. LN will also discuss this with the owner of the adjacent land. **Action: LN**
 - iii) It was reported that the padlock on the wheelbarrows near the entrance gate needs replacing as it is jammed. **Action: WTC**
 - iv) Mr Knight reported that he has repaired the tap box next to plot 8. Thank you!
 - v) It was reported that the grass path needs some maintenance work and also that some plots are being affected by moles. **Action: WTC**
 - vi) Mr Ellis and Mr Chidwick asked when the new boundary posts would be installed as some plots were encroaching on to pathways. LN confirmed that the posts had been ordered for some time and it was hoped that they would be erected shortly.
 - vii) Mr Williams asked if the waiting list for an allotment plot was open to anyone. It was confirmed by the Town Clerk that anyone can add their name to the waiting list but residents of Winterton would be given priority.

6. Any Other Business:

- i) LN announced that the Town Council has invested £10,000 in the purchase of a Kubota tractor. The full cost was £20,000 but 50% funding has been sourced from the Football Association. The tractor can be used for grass cutting, seed sowing, slitting and fertilising.

As part of the council tax support grant, NLC has imposed some conditions, for example: updating the Emergency Plan and adoption of the Parish Path Scheme. There are 5 paths within the Path Scheme in Winterton and the Council will become responsible for grass cutting and maintenance of these.

WTC are hoping to take over some tasks from NLC, for example: emptying litter bins, cutting grass verges, etc. This would mean that these tasks can be undertaken when necessary and not on a strict rota basis as with NLC at present.

- ii) LN informed the meeting that the Spring Litter Pick had been successful, despite being delayed twice by heavy snowfalls. NLC had helped to fully complete the exercise by sending the Community Payback Team out to Winterton one weekend. It is hoped that another litter pick weekend can be arranged in June.
- iii) Mrs McGregor asked for more information on the trip to Todmorden offered by the Incredible Edible Co-ordinator. LN said that she should pick a date when she would like to go and then contact the office who will liaise with Incredible Edible on her behalf.
- iv) LN informed the meeting that plot 25a had become available. She asked that thought be given to offering it to the Incredible Edible project as a community plot to be available to persons/groups who were unable to take on a plot of their own. Everyone in attendance was in favour of this. LN will therefore contact the Incredible Edible co-ordinator to make this offer.

Action: LN

Mr Knight offered to rotovate the plot and Ms Celini & Phil offered to help with the boxes. It was also suggested that the Call Connect bus could be requested to pick up and drop people off at the allotments site.

- v) 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.
- vi) LN asked for volunteers to help with watering and weeding etc for Winterton In Bloom. Focus areas this year will be the Grangefield Estate and the Winterton cemetery. All offers of help, no matter how small, will be very much appreciated.
- vii) LN invited everyone to attend the Annual Town Meeting which is to be held on 1st May 2018 at 7.30pm in the Old School Hall.

7. Date of Next Meeting:

Friday, 13th July 2018 at 7.00 pm in the Winterton Community Pavilion