

Winterton Allotment Group

Meeting Wednesday 16th October 2019 in Winterton Council Office at 6pm

Present: Lisa Newstead (Town Clerk)
Kyela Mathieson (Assistant)
Don Johnson (Mayor)
Mr Ken Howden
Mr Ian Knight
Mr Phil Johnson
Mrs Kowsilla Stone
Mrs Lizzie Housley
Miss Kirstie Cascino

Welcome: LN welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Kyela Mathieson to the members. KM is taking over the running of the allotments and should now be all noted as point of contact for any queries.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Mr John Chidwick and Mr Rod Williams

Recap of actions from previous meetings:

- i) Speeding Cars passing the allotments has been a continuing issue. This has been reported to the police however they are not able to do anything without a registration. Any further incidents should be reported to 101
- ii) The stop tap has now been located and dug out by Mike Leaning, thanks given to Mike. The taps are still leaking but they only require new packing glands. IK and KH will replace the glands at some point over the winter.
- iii) The ditch at the front along Holmes Lane has been cut back by Anglian Water and the town council have been and trimmed the rest. However now it's cleared it has shown that the ditch is full of tree branches. LN advised we have a new contact at Anglian Water and will contact him to discuss removal of the branches. Also noted that the ditch could be an issue as the edge is not defined and could easily cause a falling hazard. LH offered to have a look at the ditch as she does volunteering work which involves clearing ditches and streams. It was agreed that this shouldn't be a task that should be under taken by one person and should be risk assessed before any decisions are made.

Points raised by Council

- i) KM confirmed the overgrown plots are being dealt with, letters have been sent to the unkempt ones. The question of why are they not dealt with sooner was raised. LN advised that the council have a duty to take tenants circumstances into account and give people every opportunity to rectify the situation. Whilst we appreciate sometimes people's circumstances change and it is not always possible to maintain the plots as you would like, we ask that you keep in contact with the office, to make us aware of any changes in circumstances.
- ii) Tenancy agreements are due for renewal in January the council would like to try to get as many as possible renewed at the next meeting. All in attendance were asked about their thoughts on pricing. Would a price increase deter people from letting their plots get unruly? The holders felt that it could be a deterrent but would need to be a considerable increase on the current rate for this to work. A discussion followed on rates of allotment prices elsewhere and the decision was taken by allotment holders present and the council to increase to £15 from January 2020.

Points raised by Allotment Holders:

- i) The wheel barrows with damaged wheels have now been repaired however the padlock has not been replaced. KM to address.
- ii) The ditch running full length of the allotment has been cleared by some of the plot holders but it's still very full of rubbish in other areas. DJ to liaise with the clerk to discuss the issue further. LN confirmed that it is written in the tenancy agreement that the ditch is to be maintained by the plot holder.

Any other business:

Meeting dates were discussed and the following dates were preliminarily agreed upon;

Wednesday 8th January 2020

Wednesday 1st April 2020

Wednesday 1st July 2020

Wednesday 7th October 2020

All meetings to be held at the Town Council office and start at 6pm. Once these dates have been crossed checked to ensure they do not clash with any other meetings planned they will be confirmed and added to the website under the allotment section.

The following matters were highlighted to all attending the meeting to make members aware of what is going on locally and anyone wishing to get involved would be very welcome.

DJ invited everyone to attend the Hands Around The Humber Event which is taking place on Friday 18th October at Hearts Lane. BBC radio Humberside are broadcasting live from the area and residents are invited to pop along and help plant some bulbs.

Christmas lights switch on event is happening on the 29th November 2019 the council are always looking for volunteers if anyone would like to offer a helping hand.

The council are progressing with the neighbourhood plan and looking for residents to join the group if anyone is interested.

Plastic Promise initiative by the guides, brownies and rainbows to reduce single use plastic

Drainage issues have been a problem recently. LN explained that Anglian Water have removed fat bergs from the drains in Winterton and the costs involved. Unflushables (Fat, Oil, Sanitary items and wipes) are a major problem which we need to educate the community about.

PJ raised an issue with parking. Please can we advise all tenants to park the correct way.

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 6.00pm, Winterton Town Council Office, 52 West Street