



**Minutes of Cookhill Parish Land meeting held on
Tuesday 11th September 2018 at 7pm at Cookhill Village Hall.**

Present: Councillors R. Pinfield (Chairman), A. Sumner (Vice-Chair), M. Churchill & T. Bennett

In Attendance: Chairman of the Allotment Association – Mr David Claydon
Clerk Kate Brazier

The Chairman asked the members of the public if there were any items that they were concerned with on the agenda and if they wished to comment before the meeting officially opened but he would also close the meeting for public discussion if necessary.

L18.011 Apologies Cllrs Gupta & Davis

L18.012 Declaration of Interest

- a) Register of Interests. Members were reminded of the need to update their Register entry.
- b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: none.
- c) Other Disclosable Interests: none.

L18.013 General matters relating to Cookhill Parish Council Allotments

a) Report from Allotment Association Chairman

- **Plots** – All 34 plots are occupied with one tenant giving up in the autumn. There are 31 tenants and no one on the waiting list.
- **Conditions of Plots** – There have been a number of difficulties on site this year caused by a wet and cold spring and then compounded by a very dry and hot summer, this reduced the window of opportunity for tenants to clean up their plots and prepare them for crops. It has been one of the most challenging and difficult growing seasons.
- **Thefts** – Overnight on 29/30th June and for the second time this year, 7 allotment sheds were broken into and a petrol strimmer and various other hand tools were stolen. All tenants were advised not to leave expensive machinery in their sheds. Botany Bay Nursery was also targeted. A second secure container would be welcomed.
- **Rabbits** – The site has struggled with rabbits this year. The problem has dealt with to stop more appearing.
- **Fencing** – A number of fencing posts are starting to become loose and warped. Over next year these will need attention including replacement or re-enforcement.
- **Site Maintenance** – The Association intend to carry out some tidying up work on the burning plot during December/January when much of the overgrowth will have died down.
- **Servicing Cost** – The Honda petrol strimmer will need to be serviced over the winter. The other equipment will be assessed and any maintenance carried out in house.
- **Allotment Association AGM** – The Association AGM is to be held on Monday 24th September in the function room at the Nevill Arms starting at 5 pm.

b) Purchase of secure container - Quote received for the new storage container from Mr Claydon and also Cllr Davis. It was agreed that the reconditioned containers were better value for their purpose. It was agreed that the container would be ordered from Lion Containers and delivered to SE Davis until the site has been made ready and a suitable base built. SE Davis have agreed to re-site the container as and when required.

c) Hawthorn Whips – It was agreed that a representative from the allotment committee advise the Parish Council how many are required for this stretch of hedge and that the Parish Council will purchase them. Mr Cook agreed to research quantities.

L18.014 General Matters relating to Cookhill Parish Council Fields.

a) Chairman's Report – The Chairman has done his annual walk around the allotments and was very impressed with the standard. He was pleased to award a first prize and also a highly commended. These will be awarded at the AGM.

b) Rental Increases

- The tenant of fields 85 North and South & Fields 98, 99/11 has been given formal notice of the intended rental increase from April 2019, as discussed at the June meeting. An official letter will be received from Fisher German next year.

L18.015 To confirm the date of the next Parish Council land meeting:

- **Site Inspection** is Sunday 6th January 2019
- **Land Meeting** is Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 7pm

The meeting closed at 7:20pm

Signed Chairman

Dated