

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 29 April 2019 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, 28 Fore Street, Wellington.

Present: Councillor J Lloyd (Chair)
Councillors: G James, V Stock-Williams

Gill Croucher (Assistant Clerk)

7 Allotment tenants were also present

1. Apologies

Councillors Hunt and Russell-Cairns

2. Update on Vacancies and Waiting List

At the moment there was a high turnover of plots and all vacant plots were in the process of being reallocated. This included Plot 47 which had finally found a new tenant. The waiting list had now been reduced to 4.

3. Inspection Feedback

The allotments had recently been inspected, and found to be generally satisfactory. However there were a number of plots that had not received much attention for some time and letters would be sent to the tenants of these unsatisfactory plots. It had been suggested that the inspections take place unannounced but members of the Committee did not consider this necessary.

4. Defensive Planting to fill out the perimeter fence

The National Trust had refused our request to lift some of the invasive Holly seedlings at the Wellington Monument site so these could be used to bulk out the hedge. However, a Mahonia had already been planted by a tenant and a number of suitable planting offers had been received to enhance the hedge

5. Complaints of Dog Fouling

Another complaint of dog fouling on the site had recently been received. It was agreed that tenants should be reminded that all dogs should be kept on a lead within the communal areas and only allowed off the lead when securely on its owners' plot. Any fouling should be removed immediately.

Recommended that a sign be put up on the entrance gate to make clear the rules regarding dogs on the site.

6. Entrance Gate and Track

Tenants again raised the problems being experienced with the entrance gate and access. The improvement suggestions put forward at the last meeting, which included contacting Somerset County Council for free road planings, had not been possible to achieve and further solutions were still being looked into. However, the gate had been inspected and it was probably necessary to dig out and replace the posts. It was hoped that some of the potholes could be filled in at the same time.

It was also reported that some of the pathways at the far end of the site were difficult to access by car due to the erosion of the wheel section. This made the central section rather high and could potentially damage a vehicle. Councillors suggested that perhaps a group of tenants could get together to lower the central section if the problem continued. Tenants were also reminded that cars were brought on site at tenants' own risk.

7. Allotments Competition

It was agreed that the annual Allotments Competition would take place in July and Allan Cavill would again be asked to carry out the judging.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on Monday 22 July at 6pm

The meeting ended at 6.25pm