

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 15th May at 6pm in the Council Chamber, 28 Fore Street, Wellington.

Present: Councillors Critchard, James, Lloyd and Stock-Williams,

9 allotment tenants were also present

Debbie Bere (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. Re-election of Chair

Councillor Janet Lloyd was re-elected as Chair.

2. Apologies

Councillors Hunt and Russell-Cairns

3. Update on plots

Plots were being turned over and planted. After inspections it looked as though there may be at least 2 vacancies.

Currently all plots were occupied.

The works at the entrance to the site had seemed to improve the drainage so far. The situation would be monitored.

4. Inspections

(a) Consistency & Guidelines

Inspections are carried out by 3 teams of committee members. It was felt that some guidelines were required to ensure consistency when sending out warning letters.

Tenants felt that plots should show some action being taken to use plot not always necessarily things being planted – this was obviously seasonal.

Resolved the Committee and Deputy Clerk have a site meeting and look at the plots in order to create a guideline for inspections.

5. Change of gate code

The gate code will be changed on the 1st July. All tenants will be notified of this.

6. Plots 1&2

Work was underway on plot 1 & 2 despite several delays. The shed was being dismantled, rubbish removed and a new one erected.

7. Rats

Tenants discussed rats on the site. Some tenants had seen several while others were not affected.

Compost heaps and Chicken feed seemed to be the major cause of rats on plots.

Resolved that the following:

- The chicken tenancy form be altered to ensure those keeping birds took measures to prevent rats from accessing feed.
- Tenants were advised to seal compost bins to help prevent rats on their plots.
- Tenants are able to put bait down in but ONLY within their plot. This must be in a container approved by the Town Council office. Efforts must be taken to prevent any bait being reached by children and other animals.

8. Noticeboard

Tenants asked that the noticeboard be kept up to date.

The Deputy Clerk apologised for this and aimed to make an effort in keeping all information on site up to date.

9. Allotment Competition

To be arranged and tenants notified of the date.

10. Shortcut

A tenant had complained about another not using the designated entrance but instead cutting through by the bench.

Tenants present weren't aware of any such issue.

Resolved that tenants be reminded that the gated entrance must be used to access the site and the Deputy Clerk accept the kind offer of a tenant to put some defensive planting in on the site boundaries.

11. Date of next meeting

Monday 10th July 2017 at 6pm

The meeting ended at 6:35pm