



**SACRISTON PARISH ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 6.30 pm  
The Fulforth Centre**

**Present:** Cllr H. Dixon (Chair), Cllr G Ludlow, Cllr J Barrett, Cllr D Robson, Cllr E Waldock, Cllr A Page, and Miss C. Wilson (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Cllr R Sharp

**Item No:**

1.	<b>Introductions and Apologies</b>	The Chair opened the meeting at 6.30 pm and welcomed everyone.  Apologies received and accepted from Cllr R Sharp.
2.	<b>Previous meeting minutes</b>	Previous minutes 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2023 were accepted and signed as a true record.
3.	<b>Matters Arising</b>	<p><b><u>Inspections</u></b> Allotment inspections took place on 27<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Barret and the clerk inspected Daisy Hill and Cllr Sharp and the Clerk inspected Cross Lane.</p> <p>Agreed for notice of improvement to be sent to: - B8 – overgrown and not 50% cultivated. DH1 – Not 50% cultivated and rubbish is being stored. DH8 – Overgrown and weeds DH17/18 – rubbish being stored.</p> <p>Plot holder DH16 had lots of items stored in the plot however, he has contacted the clerk to advise that those items are not rubbish and are used in the winter.</p> <p>DH4 – tenant has already transformed the plot and has moved all the rubbish into one area. The clerk is to try and get a scrap man to take all the metal which will hopefully keep the cost of the rubbish removal down.</p> <p><b><u>RATS</u></b> The issue of rats had been brought up when carrying out inspections. The clerk advised that the agreement with Beamish Pest Control had ended however, the Clerk has authorised this to continue and to inform the Council at the next meeting.</p>
4.	<b>Gates / Boundary Fence</b>	Whilst carrying out inspections plot DH13 requested that the Council pay for a fence at the rear of the allotment as he has concerns over his chickens getting loose. While carrying out the inspection the fence looked to be in a satisfactory condition as the

		plot holder had filled in holes to prevent the chickens from escaping. The Clerk informed the plot holder that there were currently no funds to pay for any more fencing as the money in the account was paying for rubbish removal.		
5.	<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	<p>There is £500 in gate key deposits.</p> <p>The current bank account balance is £1,315.11. The clerk has £665.71 in cash which is to be paid into the account once the account signatories have been changed.</p> <p><b><u>Water</u></b> There is currently a credit on the account for Cross Lane of £152.04. There is a nil balance for Daisy Hill.</p>		
6.	<b>Matters raised by plot holders</b>	<p>Plot holder DH16 raised the matter, and they would like a walkway to be put in at Daisy Hill. He informed the clerk that there were lots of holes. The Clerk did inform the plot holder that there were insufficient funds to pay for this due to all the rubbish removal which was taking place.</p> <p>Allotment Association discussed the request and proposed to ask Cllr Sharp what members would like if it was levelled off and then gravel put down this will then get rid of some of the grass.</p>		
7.	<b>Vacant Allotments and Waiting list</b>	<b>Vacant Allotments</b>		<b>Waiting List</b>
		CL	6	6
		DH	0	1
		<p>P10 has been offered to the next person on the list. The person has requested to have hedgehogs on the plot as she runs a hedgehog sanctuary. The request has been declined and the person informed. She would still like to take the plot.</p> <p>A8 was offered however, Clerk has requested their details and they have not replied so will now be offered to the next person on the list.</p>		
8.	<b>Representative Reports</b>	<p><b>Cross Lane Allotments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues with the rats – hopefully this is resolved now the agreement has commenced with Beamish Pest Control. There are some members that would like to have rat boxes moved to other areas and the Clerk to find out when Michael will next be attending.</li> <li>• The grass is also a mess as Harry Robson had started cutting then stopped mid-way and has left areas uncut. It was the first cut of the season.</li> </ul>		

		<p><b>Daisy Hill Allotments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orchard - asbestos has been stored there for the time being.</li> <li>• Tap – It was thought that one of the taps may be leaking. We have done some work, but it looks fine. Going to advise new tenants on using the tap less. We are going to upgrade the pipe so that the access for using watering cans is better to reduce the amount of water on the path. Gordon is kindly going to do this so we will only have to pay a small amount for the fixings.</li> <li>• Lawnmower - I've asked one of the neighbours to look at the lawnmower that Cllr Dixon and Cllr Ludlow dropped off.</li> <li>• Fencing gaps towards the main road -We have some chain link fencing which we will pass on to other plot holders.</li> <li>• Feedback regarding halving the allotments -members have asked that the plots are not halved due to concern over parking issues. A few plot holders were concerned they were going to be forced to half gardens, which I've confirmed isn't the case.</li> <li>• Notice board – Awaiting a quote.</li> </ul>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Applications for Buildings</b>	Extension of garden at Cross Lane – discussed and agreed.
<b>10.</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	Next meeting is to be held on Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023 at 6.30 pm Meeting closed at 7.05 pm

Agreed and signed by Chair of Allotment Association..... Date .....