

Raglan Community Council
Minutes of the Allotment Working Group held on
Wednesday 6th November 2013 at the Junior School Raglan at
7.30pm

Present

Cllr Dr Ewen Brierley

Cllr Dennis Brown

Cllr Sylvia Price (Chairman)

Cllr Noel Porter

Mr Robert Heath allotment holder

Mrs Sue Danziger allotment holder

3487 In attendance

Adrian Edwards, Clerk to the Council.

3488 Agenda item 1:-Apologies for absence was made from

Ms Louise Curley & Mr Chris Shaw allotment holders

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. There was some debate over the notice given for the meeting. There was also some debate over the time that has passed since the last meeting. It was explained that the meeting for August was cancelled. It was also explained that the three days' notice complies with the Councils Standing Orders.

The Chairman asked if the minutes are a true and accurate record. After some debate it was:

Proposed: by Cllr E Brierley seconded by Mr R Heath that the minutes are signed as a true record

Matters to report from the minutes.

Minute 3423: The Clerk informed the meeting that this item was carried over from the last meeting. It was explained that a number of items of unused equipment is still lying on some allotments.

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had received two estimates for this work. He explained that both the estimates were very different in cost. It was:

Agreed to obtain a further estimate.

It was explained that a number of the items in this minute are still outstanding.

Cllr Brierley left the meeting at this time 7.55pm

Minute 3425 The Clerk explained that a letter had been sent to allotmentees regarding cultivating the allotments. He also explained that a letter will be sent to all allotmentees asking if they wished to exchange their allotment for a larger or smaller one.

3489 Agenda item 2:- Review any Health and Safety issues.

This item was carried over from the last meeting.

There was concern over minute 3423 and the Health and safety on the site and the replacement of the soil which has been removed from the edges of the allotments. It was:

Agreed to include a letter in the renewal application.

Concern was expressed over the continuing issues over the width of the footpaths and the access between the allotments. There was some debate as to how this can be achieved.

- That running boards are placed along the length of each allotment.
- Number plates for the allotments and the number plates can be used as can marker posts.

There was some debate over the access signs and where the signs could be erected and what should be shown on the signs. After some debate it was:

Agreed to place three private signs just inside the allotment sites

3490 Agenda item 3:- Review the questionnaire and review the way forward

The Clerk informed members about the replies received from the questionnaires.
The Clerk reported on the questionnaires and the results are shown below:

- | | | | |
|----|--|-----------------|----------------|
| 1 | If and when surplus funds are available, what are your priorities and how these funds might be spent? e.g. upkeep of fences, general allotment maintenance etc. | | |
| | i) Fences | 11 For | |
| | ii) Hedges..... | 8 For | |
| | iii) Equipment Hire..... | 2 For | |
| | iv) Rabbit fencing..... | 1 For | |
| | v) Grass cutting..... | 1 For | |
| 2. | Would you like the option of an individual shed or container within your allotment space? | Yes
7 | No
3 |
| 3. | Would you be interested in any of the following money saving ideas? | Yes
6 | No
7 |
| | i) seed and plant sharing | Yes
5 | No
3 |
| | ii) bulk buying of equipment e.g. canes, fleece | Yes
6 | No
3 |
| | iii) the sharing of larger pieces of equipment on a formal or informal basis? e.g. strimmers | Yes
5 | No
4 |
| | iv) an on-site communication notice board | Yes
5 | No
3 |
| | v) a specific area(s) to leave surplus plants and produce | Yes
5 | No
3 |
| | If Yes please say what you would like. (Please turn over if needed)
..... 4 said Yes 7 said NO | | |
| 4 | Are you interested in fostering a more family friendly environment?
If Yes what would you like? e.g. smaller allotment areas for families, sand pit, other ideas
(please state) | Yes
4 | No
7 |

5.	Would you be interested in an annual "Best Kept Allotment Award" as an encouragement to keeping allotments tidy?	Yes 4	No 6
----	--	-----------------	----------------

3491 Agenda item 3:- Consider membership renewal for January 2014.

The Clerk asked about the coming 2014 growing season. There was some debate over the current application form and the wording.

***It was agreed:** to make minor amendments to the application form.*

There was some debate over the condition some tenants are leaving their allotments in this year. It was also pointed out that one or two allotments are not being attended to on a regular basis.

***It was agreed:** that the tenancy on one of the allotment is not renewed in 2014. Reason for withdrawing the tenancy the allotment was not attended too in 2013 season*

It was proposed that a proposal is made to the open meeting about onsite storage containers on each allotment. Sizes and shape will be confirmed before the meeting.

3492 Agenda item 5:- Consider ways of fund raising to improve the allotment sites.

This item to be placed on the open meeting agenda

3493 Agenda item 6:- Membership fee for the coming year.

There was some debate over the membership fees for the coming year. After some debate and it was:

***Agreed:** the membership remains the same*

3494 Agenda item 7:-Date of next meeting 29th January 2014 at 7.30pm

3495 The Chairman thanked members for attending. The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed by _____

Date 29th November 2014