

Raglan Community Council
Minutes of the Allotment Working Group held on
Wednesday 20th February 2013 at the Junior School Raglan at
7.30pm

Present

Cllr Sylvia Price (Chairman)
Cllr Noel Porter
Cllr Ewen Brierley
Cllr Dennis Brown

3322 In attendance

Adrian Edwards, Clerk to the Council.
Mr Robert Heath allotment holder
Mr Chris Shaw allotment holder
Mrs Sue Danziger allotment holder
Ms Louise Curley allotment holder

3323 Agenda item 1:-Apologies for absence

3324 Mr Shaw asked why were the minutes signed by the Chairman of the Council without the committee seeing them first. The clerk explained that no elected members of the sub-group can vote as they are co-opted on to the committee. The minutes were agreed by those members from the council who attended the meeting and the Chairman signed them.

It was noted that in minute 3277 the year on the agreed meeting dates are incorrect. It was agreed that a copy of the plans would be sent to the sub-group members but they had not received them.

Resolved: the dates would be corrected and copies of the allotment site would be sent to everyone.

Mr Shaw stated that some of the points in the agreement needed amending. The Chairman asked which points he has concern over:

2.10 The text after the word tree should be deleted.

Resolved: this would be amended in next year's agreement.

2.4 Some debate over the maintenance of the paths.

Resolved: that the maintenance should be agreed between the allotment holders.

There was some debate over 7. (i) & 7.(iii) amendments to be considered at the next meeting

Resolved: to amend the agreement for 2014

There was some debate over the hedges and who maintains them and who pays the contractor. It was agreed that the council pays for the larger site on allotment side and top of the hedge but the land owner cuts their side and the allotment holders cut the allotment side of the hedge on the smaller site.

3325 Agenda item 2:-Review the Health and Safety on the allotment sites.

It was pointed out items of garden equipment is still lying on several plots. It was pointed out that everyone has a duty of care and items should be picked up and placed in a safe place.

Resolved: the committee Chairman would contact the allotment holders to whom this item relates and the Clerk will obtain prices for allotment posts and numbers so the allotments can be identified.

3326 There was some debate over who should or should not be on the allotments at any time. The committee considered the merits of sheds or containers. It was:

Resolved: to consider this item at the next meeting.

3327 Agenda item 3:-Consider the management of the allotment sites.

The Clerk explained the committee should be considering the management of the allotments and the way information is provided to all the allotment holders.

3(a) Review the working group sub-committee and the way forward.

There was some debate regarding the way forward and it was agreed that a questionnaire is distributed amongst the allotment holders. This will be considered at the next meeting.

3328 Agenda item 4:-Review the statutory requirements of tenancy agreement.

A number of questions were asked about the condition of some of the plots and were there any vacancies at this current time.

The Clerk informed the meeting there were some vacancies but they there several people on a waiting list and the plots have been allocated. It was explained there are a number of plots allocated to someone who is not cultivating them. Hopefully this will be rectified by the end of the month.

Resolved: that the list of individuals on the waiting list should be published in date order.

3329 Agenda item 5:-Consider the process and the set up a management plan.

It was agreed to agenda this for the next meeting and short, medium and long-term management plans can be considered and priorities can be set for grant funding or planned programmed works.

Consideration should be given to make the allotment sites a family friendly place. This would encourage more people wishing to take up gardening.

3330 Agenda item 6:-Consider applications and renewal from January 2014

There was some consideration given to the tenancies and who should hold the tenancy agreement. Concern was expressed that in the past some allotments are cultivated by different individuals who are not the tenant. This should be considered at every meeting so the situation can be policed.

3331 Agenda item 7:-Date of next meeting 17th April at 7.30pm

3332 The Chairman thanked members for attending. The meeting closed at 8.57pm.

The date of the next meeting is 17th April 2013

Signed by _____

Date 27th February 2013