

**Minutes of Allotment Committee Meeting held in The Rackliff Centre Rusthall on 19<sup>th</sup>  
December 2016 at 8:00pm**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr Benoy, Cllr Edwards and Mr Dand.

**OFFICER PRESENT:** Mrs S Denne – Clerk

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT:** Yes

- 1. Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting -** None
- 2. Apologies for Absence –** Cllr Punyer and Cllr Moore
- 3. Declarations of Interest –** Cllr Benoy has an allotment plot.
- 4.** Minutes of the Allotment Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 were agreed.
- 5. Chairman’s Report –** The Chairman thanked the Clerk, Cllrs and members of the public for all their work and continued support over the last year. He thanked all of those that helped to plant the 105 saplings along the boundary of Southwood Rd allotments. It is hoped that they will mature into a substantial hedge, which will deter trespasses and cut the cost of having to mend and or replace fencing. The Parish Council were offered some second hand metal gates and fencing but it was the wrong size and cost prohibitive. CCTV was still being considered for the Southwood Road Allotments but after it is trailed at the Rackliff Centre.
- 6. Clerk’s Report -** The Clerk thanked Mr Dand for all his help and commitment to the Allotment Committee. Mr Dand has had to give up his allotment for the time being and therefore stepped down from the Committee. The Chairman and Cllr Edwards also thanked Mr Dand for all his help since being on the Committee. The Clerk reported that all but two rental payments had been received. She also informed the meeting that four plot holders had received awards from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council in the Tunbridge Wells in Bloom competition.
- 7. Open session for questions from the public:** A member of the public requested that the bin on the Southwood Rd site be removed. This was agreed as it had been put there by TWBC when they owned the site and was no longer required. The members were informed that an allotment holder uses a non-plastic membrane, to keep down weeds, and it doesn’t rip or fray and can be rolled up and used again. Clerk to investigate. It was also requested that the website show pictures of the allotments through various stages of the year, to encourage people to take on an allotment. Clerk said that this could be possible once the new website was up and running in the New Year. It was asked when the next allotment meeting would be. The date has yet to be confirmed, but the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 was being considered.

**The meeting closed at 20:25**