

Minutes of Allotment Committee Meeting held in

The Rackliff Centre Lower Green Road on 17th September 2018 at 8.00pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cllr Smith (Chairman), Cllr Edwards (V. Chairman), Cllr Ellicott, Cllr Duncombe and Mrs French.

OFFICER PRESENT: Su Denne

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT: Yes

1. **Enquire whether anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting** – - No-one present intended to film, photograph and/or record the meeting.
2. **To receive and approve apologies for absence:** Cllr Gordon and Mr Benoy.
3. **Declarations of Personal and Prejudicial Interests-** Cllr Smith and Mrs French have allotment plots.
4. **Declarations of Lobbying.** None
5. **Minutes -** To resolve that the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18th June 2018 are taken as read, confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Southwood Road –**
 - a) New Fencing – The new fencing for Southwood Road allotments is now in place.
 - b) Discuss break-ins – Youths still managing to trespass and cause damage on plots. They appear to be getting into the site at the corner by the pavilion. Chairman and Clerk visited the site and decided that the oak tree should have the crown raised. The Clerk has organised this at a cost of £80. It was agreed by the members that the Clerk contact the fencer, to obtain a quote for further fencing (the same as the new fencing at the front of the site) to go around the corner of the allotment site, by the pavilion.
 - c) Request for volunteers to help clear up Southwood Road and arrange date – it was agreed that the clerk would email Southwood Road plot holders, asking for volunteers to tidy up areas on the site. The day agreed for this 13th October 2018 from 10.30.
 - d) Further hedging required along the boundary of part of the fencing, clerk to email plot holders requesting cuttings of prickly shrubs. These can be stored at the RC until large enough to be transplanted.
7. **Wickham Gardens -**
 - a) Bees – It was agreed by the members that the plot holder of plot 40 could keep bees on his plot. He would like to call it Wickham Gardens honey.

- 8. Tenancy Agreement** – The members agreed to the updating of the agreement. The Chairman explained that the present agreement did not state clearly enough what was expected of tenants and alterations were also required with reference to bonfires, payments and locking of gates. The revised tenancy agreement to take immediate affect for new plot holders. Present plot holders to be informed by email and a notice on the three sites. They will then be asked to sign to agree to the changes when their rent due letters are sent out.
- 9. Chairman’s Report** - The Chairman commented on the extremely hot weather benefiting some plot holders but not others. Keeping up with the watering had been a difficult task. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for organising the 1st Allotment Competition and BBQ. He also thanked Ms canning for her great cooking, 34 people attended the BBQ. Next year’s completion to be discussed at the December meeting.
- 10. Open session for questions from the public:** A member of the public asked how many plots were available on Southwood Road. The Clerk replied two at the present but likely to change after the invoices had been sent out. A member of the public was concerned that combination padlocks may not function in the winter weather.

Date of Next Meeting –17th December 2018

Meeting Closed at 20.48

..... Chairman

Dated