

Minutes of the Allotment Society meeting held on Wednesday 11 September 2019 at 7.30pm at the Old School Hall, Back Road, Sandhurst.

Present:

Mrs Deacon (representing Tom)
Patsy Hiscock
Mary and Gordon Hiscock
Shirley and George Cramp
David and Toni Rogers
Yousef Alsalih
Jill Oliphant-Robertson (PC Rep)
Jane and Trevor Bateman
Chris and Teresa Breckon
Gill Hale

Apologies:

David Cross
John and Jo Gillingham
Graham Fisher
Mike O'Rourke

Matters Arising from April's Minutes:

Vacant plot 1b:

Mary and Gordon have cleared the plot and covered it in heavy-duty plastic. Photos will go on the revised PC website on 20/10. The idea of it being used as part of a communal area was dismissed.

The Alsalih plot 2c:

Mary and Gordon have weed-killed and strimmed the plot so it is ready for the winter. The PC have been asked to pay for covering for it but this has not yet been decided.

Graham Fisher's plots 5a and b:

It was decided that the PC would be officially asked to take the plots away from Graham as he is not fulfilling his contract by cultivating them. The PC will discuss this at their October meeting.

Side Hedge:

It was decided that Lance would not be asked this year to cut the hedge but as the PC is awarding new contracts shortly the cutting of the hedge and maintaining the width of the path will be included in any contract they decide on.

Quails/chickens:

The PC has no objection to Mary and Gordon keeping the above. This is in accordance with 7.1 of the Contract Schedule. Mary and Gordon have asked permission of the PC and have been granted permission in writing. The question of vermin was raised but the fact that there is a chicken farm not far from the allotment ensures that there will be rats but their population will not increase

because of a few quails on the allotment.

Any Other Business:

The skip:

The PC have agreed to pay for a skip to get rid of rubble and pallets from the site but it is all on hold at the moment because of administrative and financial delays.

Rydon Homes:

Gill is meeting Sarah Heron from Rydon Homes next week to show her the holly tree and the plot which needs cutting back. As planning permission has been granted for building houses on the site, Gill will emphasise to Sarah that the entryway to the allotments must be kept clear at all times and she will ask that we are kept informed of a start date and any other developments that may impact on the allotments.

Gate Padlock:

Although the padlock and gate does cause problems, it was decided to wait until the Spring to do anything about it when it may be possible to get a new gate altogether.

Top Hedge:

Chris and Teresa were thanked for their liaison with Mr Lucas over the cutting of the top hedge.

New Contracts:

All attendees thought there was no need for new contracts to be issued as updated ones were sent out last year and the wording in them agreed by all allotmenters. The livestock question is already covered in 7.1 of the Contract Schedule.

Schedule of Work for the PC:

1. Side Hedge – cutting annually
2. Security – tarmac just inside gates; metal gates once the houses are built
3. A hoselock-type fixture to be fitted to the tap in the first trough
4. Skip

Plot 7c:

Gordon Hiscock told the meeting that he and Mary would be taking over Plot 7c which adjoins their plots and is at the moment an area which is maintained by them.

Troughs:

David Rogers kindly said he would turn off the water to the troughs and empty them on 1 November.

Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday 15 April 2020.