

Worth Parish Council
Minutes of the Allotments Sub-Committee Meeting
September 26th 2017 at 1100hrs

Present: Cllr Anscomb
Cllr Gibson
Miss S Vaughan (Assistant Clerk)

Cllr Cruickshank
Cllr Webb

8. The Election of a Chairman

Cllr Gibson PROPOSED that Cllr Cruickshank be elected as Chairman. Cllr Anscomb SECONDED, all AGREED and the motion was CARRIED.

9. The Election of a Vice Chairman

Cllr Gibson PROPOSED Cllr Anscomb be elected as Vice Chairman. Cllr Cruickshank SECONDED, all AGREED and the motion was CARRIED.

10. Public Question Time

No members of the public were present.

11. Apologies

Apologies were NOTED from Cllr Coote.
Absent: Cllr Larkin.

12. Declaration of Pecuniary and Other Interests

Cllr Cruickshank declared that he is an allotment holder.

13. Chairman's Announcements

None.

14. Allotments

A polytunnel measuring 12x6 had been reported by a current tenant. The new agreement only allows for 10x6. It was AGREED not to take any retrospective action.

The tenant of Plot 84 has applied to erect a shed on his plot. The Committee AGREED.

The tenant of Plot 8 would like to split his plot. It was NOTED that the tenant has already been denied permission by the Clerk. The tenant has paid for the whole plot for the year. Cllr Anscomb suggested that Cllr Cruickshank approach the tenant and suggest that he finds someone to help with the other half plot, without the expectation of taking the plot on at a later date.

It was NOTED that the Allotment Shields will be presented at the next Full Council Meeting on October 30th.

It was NOTED that the 50% off discount for tenants aged over 65 applies to all plots.

It was NOTED that Worth Parish Council charges very little for allotment rental, compared with other Parish Councils. Cllr Gibson PROPOSED to raise the cost to £5 per rod. This was SECONDED by Cllr Webb and AGREED by all. Cllr Webb suggested that the allotment fees always be raised by at least the rate of inflation. The Committee AGREED. The Assistant Clerk drew the Committee's attention to the Metrication Act of 2002, meaning that the measurement of plots by rods should be square metres. It was AGREED to convert the plot sizes and charge 20p per square metre.

It was NOTED that the tenants from Plot 102 had taken over from a relative on Plot 101. There is no signed tenancy agreement, even though the tenants have a blank form. The current tenancy agreement allows for one plot per household only. Cllr Cruickshank informed the Committee that Plot 102 is unable to be cultivated. The Assistant Clerk suggested that Plots 101 and 102 be merged, if 102 is unable to be cultivated. Cllr Cruickshank PROPOSED that Plots 101 and 102 be merged. Cllr Webb SECONDED and all AGREED.

The Assistant Clerk advised that she is going for training on the Parish Online software, which will

help to map out the allotments.

The Assistant Clerk asked the Committee if the Crawley Down Gardens and Allotments Association would be in a position to manage the allotments. The Committee established that the Crawley Down Gardens and Allotments Association is not fit for purpose in its current format.

15.Date of the next meeting – January 2018, to be arranged.

Meeting closed at 11:51 hrs

Chairman: _____

Date: _____