

BURBAGE PARISH COUNCIL
ALLOTMENT WORKING PARTY MEETING

Wednesday, 28th August 2019 @ 11.00am

MINUTES

1. Members present: Cllrs. Ann Hall (Chair), Mike Hall, Richard Flemming with Rachel Parrish in attendance
2. Apologies received: Cllr. Barry Walker
3. Minutes of last meeting: Proposed by Ann Hall and seconded by Mike Hall that the Minutes of meeting held on 26th June 2019 as a true record. This was agreed.

4. Untidy/overgrown plots:

Woodland Avenue allotments

Plot 22 – Tenancy has been terminated. It was agreed to split the plot into two smaller plots as highlighted on plan shown by Rachel.

Plot 23 – Still awaiting response from allotment holder

Plots 26A/26B – These have had significant work undertaken to improve the condition of the

Plots 41/49 and 63 – It was agreed to issue the plot holders with a final notice. If the Council has not received a response from the allotment holders within four weeks from date of receipt of notice to terminate then their agreement to hold the plot will be terminated

Blackways Meadow allotments

Plot 11 -It was agreed to issue the plot holder with four-weeks notice to improve the plot.

Other allotment issues

Woodland Avenue

Plots 2/53A and 53B/63 – Plots untidy. Will keep a watch to see if work undertaken to improve.

Plots 27A/27B – path need redefining

Blackways Meadow

Plot 10 - It was agreed to offer the plot to the next person on the waiting list

5. Best Kept Allotment – Rachel will produce certificates. Mike Hall suggested that we may offer the Grove Road and Sketchley schools to design the certificate for us. It was agreed that the certificate will need to include the Burbage Parish Council logo. Rachel will contact schools.
6. Animal Sanctuary –A request by a Burbage resident to set up an animal sanctuary on half of Plot 22 was considered. It was recommended that the request be refused as it is not considered an acceptable use of an allotment site, for the following reasons: The proposal would contravene allotment rules including those relating to the proportion of each plot required to be under cultivation and the total footprint of buildings and structures on each plot. A waiting list is operated and strictly adhered to, meaning that prospective tenants are offered plots in turn as they become vacant and, as such, there is no allowance for prospective tenants to specify which plot they wish to lease. In addition, it was felt that the proposed use could lead to complaints from neighbouring residents. Questions regarding the appropriate licensing of such an operation were also raised.

The plot in question has recently been returned to the council due to a terminated tenancy and re-allocated to create two separate plots, which are both able to be let for allotment plot use. No part of the plot is considered unusable for this purpose. It was suggested that the resident making the request might wish to contact local schools and HBBC to see if there was a more suitable site for their proposed use.

7. Any other issues

7.1 Waterlogged plots – Rachel informed the group that it had been noted that during the recent wet weather several of the plots had become waterlogged, especially Plot 1. Rachel informed the group that photographs had been taken and that the situation will be monitored.

8. There being no further business the meeting was closed at 12.15.

9. Date on next meeting: Wednesday, 2nd October 2019 at 2.00pm. Meeting at Woodland Avenue allotments for further judging of the Best Kept Plot

Richard Fleming