

# WHEATHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## Allotments Committee

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2008

Present: Cllrs. S. Walford (Chairman), G. Clark & J. Burgess (representing Cllr. Turner) with field representatives David Watson, Max Wade and Mary Cheale

Apologies for Absence: Cllr. Turner (on holiday)

In Attendance: The Clerk, Mrs. B. Green

- 1) Water Pipe – Hitchens Field – Nothing further from the plumber who had been approached for a quotation. Clerk to chase up. (An allotment holder had said he could do the job).
- 2) Water Tap in the Paddock – Folly Fields – This keeps jamming. A new tap is required.
- 3) Gate at the Entrance to Hitchens Field – The entrance into the field needs to be altered to be the same as the entrance to Glebe Field i.e. the gate to be further into the allotments. This will enable vehicles to be clear of Marford Road whilst the driver opens/closes the gate. Mr. Dawes to be asked to carry out the work.
- 4) Padlocks on all four gates at Hitchens and Glebe – Purchasing keys for all the allotment tenants will be expensive. Clerk to obtain costs. Cllr. Burgess proposed that the committee purchases 4 locks and the keys, allotment holders must purchase the keys from the Parish Council. The cost could be added to the 2009/10 rent. Both Max and David to be given a number of keys to hand out for those not able to get to the Parish Council office. David Watson to purchase the chains required for the locks, seconded Cllr. Walford. Agreed.
- 5) Hoggin for car park area at Hitchens and the entrance at Baxendale. Clerk to check of a company supplying hoggin.
- 6) Guidelines for Allotment Representatives – Four tenants will represent Hitchens Field as the field is large, but only one will attend the committee meetings. It was agreed to have names and addresses and plot numbers put on the computer.
- 7) Hedging and Garden Shrubs – Allotment Regulations – It was agreed to take out the word “shrub”. The words “The plot should be cultivated for growing fruit, vegetables and cut flowers only”, to be incorporated in the rules also “livestock”. However ‘livestock’ must be defined. Members must think of amendments which can be made to the rules. The Chairman will read the rules of South Harpenden Allotment Association.
- 8) Allotment Toilets – This subject was discussed, but these would not be financially viable.
- 9) Car Parking – Hitchens – Parking is restricted. There is no problem in Glebe Field.
- 10) Un-worked Plots Hitchens – There has been no action on 2, 32, 34, 36, 43 (new tenant), 79, 64, 45 (reminder to work). Mr. Wing has also reported 48 & 68. Trees must be removed from plot 73.

- 11) Boundaries – Mr. Dawes to be asked to level the boundaries of the plots.
- 12)
  - a) Glebe Hedges – The hedges bordering Marford Road need cutting back.
  - b) Further plots could be made at the bottom of this field.
  - c) Plot No. 2 – representative to ‘keep an eye’ on this plot.
  - d) Plot 3 is vacant – this needs to be cleared and levelled. (Contact Mr. Dawes).  
Letter to be written to the tenant informing her of this fact.
  - e) Plot 7 – David Watson will arrange for tidying.
  - f) Noticeboard – A noticeboard is needed in this field.
- 13) Folly Fields – Plot No. 26 – Half of this plot could be let to a newcomer.  
No. 8 – This plot is being shared. Pampas grass needs removing from the site.  
No. 6 – This has improved.  
No. 16 – Cultivate but the laurel hedge needs cutting back.  
Paddock – Fence still leaning on to plot numbers 27, 31 & 32.  
A rambling rose and some brambles appear to have been sprayed with weed-killer as they have died off.
- 14) Date of Next Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> December which is the budget meeting.