

Bishops Cleeve Parish Council

Notes from the Allotment Users Group Meeting held on Wednesday 20th May 2009

Present: Paul Fairbanks, Linda Phillips, Roy Stanborough, Kate Threadgold
Cllrs James Habgood, Ann Lightfoot, Jayne Stephens (Chair)

Apologies: Trevor Phillips, Sarah Wallbridge

User Reps Information: Notice could be put on notice board i.e.: names and plot numbers. Roy to send information to Clerk.

Allotment Users page on Council Website: to be addressed after Street Fair. Action for Cllrs – to discuss at relevant committee meeting.

Water supply to new plots: Costs to be ascertained and individual contributions based on return of 75%. This, based on difficulties in getting funds from individuals. Monies raised at Street Fair could be used to meet any shortfall. Users to arrange direct with contractor for work to be done.

Newsletter: Linda & Paul to produce. To be distributed to allotment holders by group. If possible the newsletter could go on notice board. Cllrs - to see if it is possible for council board at entrance to be primarily for use of allotment notices.

Bulk Buy Strategy: Paul had investigated. Best option appeared to be for group to affiliate to Allotment Association which gave access to such schemes. It also gave access to insurance. Paul to follow up.

Short term Improvement: Track – all but one load done. James to arrange last delivery – probably at weekend.. Hedge cutting – now included in tenancy agreement. Manure – to go in bays. Best option was probably for individuals to arrange their own supply.

Update from Allotment Committee meeting: New tenancy letters going out. Change of charge period which eases administrative process. Fees gone up by 2.5% Most plots are now of good standard. Plots 25,26 and 28 to be used for general use as communal area, with some willow planting to ease the drainage problems. The willow crop could then be used for vegetable canes etc. James to follow up on willow option.

User group Update: Some concerns expressed re: individual plots. To be taken back to main committee. Tacks left in car park. To be addressed via newsletter. Concern over use of hosepipe contrary to tenancy. Problem of people accessing other peoples plots to lay hosepipe. Main committee to address problem with discussion of possible action/solution. Group to provide plot number.

Street Fair: Council agreed to setting up of stall in Parish Pump area on basis of responsible use. Fair runs from 12 – with set up earlier. Offers of vegetables, plants, eggs, pickles, chutneys, cakes, soup welcome. Users to get together informally before date to finalise.

Any Other Business: Roy unable to attend next Allotment Committee meeting. Need for someone else to attend on behalf of Users

Date of Next Meeting: 20th July 2009