



BRADNINCH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

The Guildhall
Bradninch
Exeter, Devon

Minutes of the Bradninch Town Council Allotment Committee Meeting

Monday 17th June 2024, 7.30pm, Bithywinds Allotment Site

Present: Cllr M Taylor (Chair), Cllr S Birley, Cllr P Chambers, Cllr L Mottram.

In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Birley agreed to take the minutes.

Public Open Session: None.

A/24/01 Apologies for Absence: Accepted from Cllr Ottery (childcare).

A/24/02 Declarations of Interest: Cllrs Birley and Mottram – allotment holders.

A/24/03 Vacant plots/waiting list: As at 17/6/2024 there was one plot vacant (OC1) and no residents on the waiting list.

A/24/04 Correspondence:

(a) Email from the tenant of plot 9B requesting an extension of time to 'tidy up' the plot following receipt of a 'termination' letter. It was RESOLVED to grant the additional time and to ask the owner to cut back the growth breaking out from the allotment onto the path.

(b) Email from the tenant of plot 7B advising that 'tidy up' work on the plot is ongoing. It was RESOLVED to send a letter noting the recent excellent improvements to the plot.

(c) Email from the tenant of plot 24 advising that 'tidy up' work on the plot is ongoing. It was agreed that the plot had improved and so no further action would be taken at this time.

(d) Email from the tenant of plot 8B advising that they wished to give up the plot and requesting that it be transferred to the neighbouring tenant (9A) who had agreed to take it on. RESOLVED that the transfer take place and that a letter should be sent to both tenants confirming this.

(e) Plot 16A - Cllr Birley had met with the tenants and reported that they were due to be on site during this inspection to discuss the plot with the Committee - see below.

(f) Request to rent a plot from a non Bradninch resident – a resident of Cranbrook had enquired about taking on a plot but it was RESOLVED that only residents of Bradninch were eligible for Bradninch allotments. Cllr Mottram offered the contact details of her father who had plots to let in Aylesbeare and who would welcome enquiries from Cranbrook residents. Clerk to pass on the information.

A/24/05 Site Inspection

It was RESOLVED to set up a new 'well done on tidying up your allotment' template letter.

(a) Allotment 5A – it was noted that a greenhouse base was in situ. The Clerk had confirmed that permission had been given for this.

(b) Allotment 5B – RESOLVED to send a letter asking for the plant growth coming through the fence to be cut back in order to keep the path clear.

(c) Allotment 8A – the plot was due to be let to a new resident of Bradninch as soon as house contracts had been exchanged which was expected to be by June end.

(d) Allotment 9B – RESOLVED to send a letter asking for the plant growing outside of the plot and onto the path to be cut back.

(e) Allotment 7B – RESOLVED to send a ‘well done on tidying up the plot’ letter.

(f) Allotment 14A – RESOLVED to send a ‘well done on tidying up the plot’ letter.

(g) Allotment 16A – (see above) the tenants were present and were invited to speak. They reported on the state of the plot when taken on, as discussed with Cllr Birley on an earlier date, and suggested greater consideration needs to be given to some plots ahead of re-letting in terms of what may lie beneath the surface or what the eye cannot see. This was agreed by the Committee and it was RESOLVED that, as a result of the state of the plot when taken on, the tenants be granted one free year of annual fees in 2024/2025. Clerk to arrange.

(h) Allotment 24 - RESOLVED to send a ‘well done on tidying up the plot’ letter adding the Committees sympathy as the tenant had not been well of late.

(i) Allotment 25B – RESOLVED to send a further ‘cultivate your plot’ letter.

(j) Allotment 30A and 29B – (same tenant) RESOLVED to send a further ‘cultivate your plots’ letter.

A/24/06 Community Meeting: RESOLVED to alter the meeting date to Monday 23rd September 2024, at The Guildhall, with a ‘meet and greet’ time of 5.30pm (closing by 7.30pm). Clerk to book the venue.

A/24/07 Clerk/Councillor Comments: None.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

The next scheduled meeting date is to be advised.