

WOODCOTE ALLOTMENTS FOR THE LABOURING POOR

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Minutes

of the committee meeting held on Tuesday 13 March 2018

Present: Rick Brightman (Chairman), Linda Booth, Nicky Bridge, David Franklin, Susan Maguire, Bert Wilcox

- 1) Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 November 2017 and the Minutes of the AGM held on 14 November 2017 were approved and duly signed by the Chairman.
- 2) Matters arising from Minutes of last meeting (not on agenda elsewhere):
 - a) **Bug hotel:** DF reported that some additional items had been received and incorporated. More canes and guttering would be welcome. The roof needs fitting, and RB has some adhesive tiles that would be useful. DF was thanked for erecting the bug house, which is looking very smart. **DF, RB**
 - b) **BT hedge:** no further action has been noted on the height of the hedge. RB would discuss with the Parish Clerk the reduction in height when the hedge is due for its next cut. **RB, PC**
- 3) **Skip:** It was agreed that a 12 yd skip should be ordered for delivery on Thursday 5 April to remain on site for 2 weeks. LB would send out an email to advise ploholders, together with a reminder on what not to put in it. **LB, RB, PC**
- 4) **Plant and seed swap:** the date agreed is Sunday 6 May, 11.00am to approx. 1.00pm. **All**
- 5) **Site Monitoring:** RB and DF carried out an inspection last week. At this early stage, especially following the bad weather, very little work has yet been done on most plots. They also looked at water troughs, fences etc. 2 plots were noted as being apparently abandoned, ie 30b and 10a. These 2 should be closely monitored to see if any work is done or if these ploholders decide not to renew. Next monitoring in 6 weeks. **RB, DF**

Troughs: the pipes on some were lagged 3 years ago and the remainder at least 10 years ago, and all lagging is now disintegrating. It will all need replacing before next winter. Thanks were expressed to RB for replacing the ballcock on the centre trough. At the moment they are all working OK.

DF enquired about the compost bins alongside the cricket hut. These are used for grass clippings from the cricket field, and Sam Peates had indicated in the past that allotment-holders could help themselves.

It was noted that coppiced hazel branches/twigs, which are in a pile in the hazel coppice corner, are available for use by allotment-holders.

It was agreed that the box of stones near the main entrance should be used to fill the main tracks. **All**
- 6) **Any other business:**
 - a) SM raised the issue of notifying all committee members when new ploholders take on a plot so that they can be welcomed. LB will send out an email together with the site plan each time. The plan will show new ploholder plots in green. **LB**
 - b) Manure: RB said he would be able to get further deliveries of manure later in the spring once lambing is over and the ground has dried out. **RB**
 - c) NB shared 2 notices about a local show and an RHS request for allotment volunteers to complete diaries for a research project. LB will put a notice on the noticeboard and mention it in an email. **LB**
 - d) Surplus fruit/veg box: RB will put this out in 3 weeks' time for spare rhubarb. **RB**
- 7) **Next meeting:** 6.00pm on Tuesday 1 May 2018 in the Red Lion.
- 8) The meeting closed at 7.05 pm.

Signed R Brightman
Chairman

Date 8 May 2018