BARTON-UPON-HUMBER



ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

Chair – Ed Cunnah (07498 630253) edwyncunnah@gmail.com

Vice Chair – Vacant

Treasurer – Mike Corlyon (01652 781134) – michaelcorlyon@gmail.com

Secretary – Neil Jacques (01652 632438) – secretarybartonallotments@hotmail.com

MINUTES

of the Committee meeting held at **7.00pm**

on Tuesday 1 October 2024 at the Corn Exchange, Market Place.

**Present:** Colin Andrew, (in the chair), Anthony Blanchard, Mike Corlyon, Neil Jacques, Penny Thornton, Kevin Sharp, John White

1. Apologies: Ed Cunnah, Wanda Hibbert, Andy Roberts,
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting – approved as a correct record. p. PT. s.MC
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
   1. Asbestos 30b - All removed from 30b, thanks to Colin, but there is a large pile on 29 and other plots have some too. CA is willing to advise on safe removal.
   2. Storage cupboard – PT to look into the need for this over the next few months.
   3. Speed limit on plots – MC had installed 3 of these signs. Just need a plot holder willing to have the 4th.
4. Correspondence
   1. Offer of manure delivery. Agreed to place a tarpaulin outside the gates on the east side when it is due, to prevent the parking area being covered.
5. Treasurer’s Report
   1. Monthly Statement – MC reported that the income was related to the End of Season Social £155 and Christmas Meals. The main expenditure was £125 for the End of Season Social buffet at the White Swan.

* Funds available at 31/09/24 £5556.19 - Reserves (£2395.38) – Meal (£119.92) £3040.89
* Overall increase in funds over month £5556.19 (September) - £5483.97 (August) £72.22
* Overall decrease in funds over year £5556.19 (September) - £5914.21 (31 Dec. 2023) -£358.02

1. Site Managers’ Report
   1. Six monthly full inspection report. NJ reported that inspection concluded that the plots were generally in good condition. It was noted that several external organisations had made similar comments, and it was felt by the committee that the relatively good condition was due to plot holders asking, at AGM, to encourage improvements in better plot keeping, which resulted in the monthly inspections, which had proved effective.
   2. Several plot holders need to cut their hedge on the west side, and various plots on both sides had structures too close to the hedge. Some can’t be moved until they are replaced, but others, like compost bins, can be when they are next emptied. Several others have what appears to be rubbish piled up too close to the hedges, so this needs to be resolved over the winter too. These comments to be relayed to all plot holders in a general email with the request that appropriate action is taken.
   3. Plot holders who will receive specific letters requiring action are:

* Plot 10: asking about their future intentions for the plot, as there had been no harvesting to date and it was full of weeds. (Since the inspection harvesting has started so now not needed)
* Plot 19: not 75% cultivated as Poly tunnel being used for storage. Plot holder needs to remove materials and return it to cultivation.
* Plot 24a: path narrows and is very uneven near the compost bins. Request to straighten in line with the rest of the path.
* Plot 32: sort out path and not use the west end of plot for storage.
* Plot 40: to take down IBC one stacked on another and cut the hedge
  1. Waiting List/ vacant plots. Currently there are no vacant plots and there are two people on the full plot list and 8 on the half plot. AB reported that he wanted to give up half his plot so it was agreed to offer the existing plot holder wanting to reduce from full to half the option of having the back half of plot 33. PT to check. This keeps one of the two plots as a full plot.
  2. Western Hedge cutting – it has been cut except where structures are too close to the hedge. It is now the responsibility of plot holder to ensure the top is cut to the same level as the rest where their structures are in the way. JW will deliver the Whisky by way of thanks.
  3. Hedge planting survival rate – concern that as many as 50% of the saplings planted last winter/spring, may not have survived. Need to have a proper look before agreeing on action.

1. Land Registry - Progress report -EC nothing further to report.
2. Horticultural Show - 9 August 2025
   1. NJ reported that he had requested the 9 August for the show when booking the AGM at Trinity for 7 January 2025.
   2. CA will call the first show meeting in Nov/Dec.
3. Events
   1. End of Season Event – Thanks to PT for organising this.
   2. Christmas Meal – Tickets were selling now that the newsletter had gone out.
   3. Newsletter – any feedback from articles. PT advised no offers to take on the entrance planting. Quite a lot of feedback about the use of Herbicides and Pesticides. One long response suggesting not using backpack sprays as even on a calm day the atomised chemicals will drift. MC reported that he had had verbal feedback. Need to draft a proposal for the AGM.
4. Web site Update.
   1. LC reported by email that the website had been updated as follows:

* Best Plot Competition Page - photo updated
* Notice Board page updated
* Policies & Docs - August minutes added
* Bartonian page - September article and photos added
* No dig newsletter - updates every Friday (till end of season)
* 2024 Events page - end of season gathering photos added
  1. LC was also requesting an update for the Schools Page, perhaps with the potato competition. MC to do an article and see if he could get permission to use photographs from one of the schools.
  2. It was agreed to minute the thanks of the Committee to LC for all the work she does in keeping the web site up to date, and for her work in producing the Newsletter.

1. AGM 7.00pm Tues 7 January 2025 - Agenda items:
   1. Herbicide discussion – need to draft a proposal for discussion based on written and verbal feedback. PT/NJ
   2. Election of Committee and Officers – CA offered to stand as Vice Chair if nobody else came forward. PT is having discussions with other plot holders about the role of Membership Secretary and the possibility of a job share. KS to approach another plot holder to see if they would be interested in being a committee member.
   3. Other proposals. NJ to email all members in November requesting other matters for discussion and nominations for the committee.
2. Any Other Business

12.1 IBC at the top of the plots is split. Needs to be emptied for repair/replacement.

1. Date of Next Meeting: Tues 5 November 7.00 pm, Corn Exchange . Apologies: CA