

Minutes of ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE Meeting of 9th January 2025 at 7.00pm at Euxton Allotment Site Office

Councillors present: Cllr E Jones (Chair)
Cllr D Rigg (Vice Chair)
Cllr K Reed
Cllr G Vickers

Officers present: A Mayoh L Hardman

Members of the public: 0

1. Apologies – Cllr P Fellows
2. Minutes of meeting held Thursday 12th September 2024

Resolved: Minutes of the Allotment Committee held on 12th September 2024 were agreed to be an accurate record and signed by the Chairman.

3 Public participation

No members of the public present.

4. Site Reports and Considerations

- Site Security

The Allotment Officer reported that the new lock on the gates is loose and has been reported to the Clerk.

Resolved: The Allotment Officer confirmed that the lock is working and the gates can be secured. Clerk to contact the manufacturer to assess and repair. Deputy Clerk reported that an email was circulated to all Plot Holders advising that the security code is for the information of plot holders and EPC staff only and is not to be shared with family members. A notice has also been placed in the noticeboard.

- Unaccompanied Minors

The sign relating to the issue of unaccompanied minors on the Allotment Site has now been fitted.

Resolved: The Allotment Officer reported that the notification sign is now in place and there has been no further issues or reports of unaccompanied minors on the site. Deputy Clerk advised that the Allotment Licence Agreement Document has been updated detailing that unaccompanied minors are not permitted on the Allotment Site as it is a breach of Health and Safety regulations.

5. NWIB /IYN 2024 Results and 2025 Competition

The Committee reviewed and discussed the Assessor(s) Report for Euxton Allotment Gardens and confirmed that a Level 5 Outstanding Result was again awarded to the site for the second year in succession. The Awards Ceremony on 30th October 2024 was attended by Cllr Jones and EPC Caretaking Staff and the certificate is displayed in the Allotment Cabin. The Deputy Clerk advised that entry forms for 2025 will be forwarded to participants at the end of January.

The Allotment Officer suggested the purchase of a roll of reusable weed suppressing membrane for use on site to assist plot holders and for use on vacated plots.

Resolved: Cllr Jones authorised the purchase of a roll of membrane from the Allotment budget for use as required and to be stored in the tool shed.

6. Development of planters on site – pricing for plants / mini conifers

The Allotment Officer provided costings for the purchase of further planters and plants for the site. Councillors discussed the number and sizes of planters required, quantity of plants and soil/compost needed.

Resolved: Cllr Jones authorised the purchase of 5 x planters (50 litre) and conifers from the Allotment budget, to be sourced by the Allotment Officer.

7. Update re Rotavator costs

The Committee discussed the prices and details of Rotavator equipment provided by Cllr Jones and the Allotment Officer. They discussed the use of the rotavator for use on vacant plots at the allotment site and for wildflower patches around the village.

Resolved: Cllr Jones and the Allotment Officer will visit a local supplier and assess the equipment and obtain prices with a view to purchasing the rotavator for delivery before Easter. Cllr Jones will make enquires with the Personnel Committee regarding the hire of the equipment and EPC staff to carry out work on the Allotment site.

8. Portable Toilet – Update on rental and servicing extension

Deputy Clerk updated the Committee on the hire and ongoing service costs for the portable toilet on the site. Cllr Jones reported that the facility has been well received by plot holders and is an asset to the site.

Resolved: Deputy Clerk reported that the contract hire and servicing has been extended for 12 months.

9. Allotment Society

No members of the Allotment Society were present and the Minutes from the last meeting on 11th August 2024 were not received.

10. Any other items which need attention or research - Nil

Resolved: Members agreed that pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and defined in Paragraph 1, Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972. It is proposed that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public are excluded from the forthcoming items of business.

11. Plot Reports and Considerations

A private report was considered.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Allotment Committee will be 13th March 2025

Meeting concluded at 1950 hours.