

**INFORMAL REPORT OF THE ALLOTMENTS USERS MEETING
HELD ON 8th NOVEMBER 2011**

MEMBERSHIP & ATTENDANCE

Chairman: * Mrs M Jarrett

Councillors Mrs W Boatman
* T Edwards
* N Eve
Mrs A Hayward (ex officio)
* Mrs A Preedy
* Mrs L Sutherland (ex officio)
* S Watkins
* Mrs J Worrall

*Denotes members present

There were eight allotment holders present.

11/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Cllrs Mrs Hayward and Mrs Boatman.

11/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest:

11/03 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee

RESOLVED

That the informal notes of the Allotment Users held on 9th November 2010 be accepted.

11/04 MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

11/05 REPRESENTATIONS FROM ALLOTMENT HOLDERS

Copmans Wick:

It was reported that there were one or two plots not being cultivated but users were aware that non cultivated plots were now followed up by the Council on a regular basis. The issue of Dogs running freely in the allotments that had been raised as a problem the previous years had been less evident over the last year. Concerns regarding trees overhanging the site were raised and there was some discussion on the ownership of the offending trees which would be followed up with the appropriate authority.

The Swillett:

The issue of fencing around the Swillett site allowing in non allotment holders and dogs was raised, together with concerns over a couple of trees that were on Parish Council land and needed attention. The additional plots had initially caused some adverse reaction but the Allotment representative reported that he had dealt with this. It was noted that there had been an incident earlier in the year that had been pure vandalism. Concern was raised over the condition of the track leading to the Swillett Allotments. As this is a public right of way it would be taken up with the Rights of Way officer to see if something could be done.

Dog Kennel Lane:

The Allotment Representative thanked the Ranger and Allotment Administrator for all their work. He reported there were no problems with the site and that he was happy with the work that had been done. The issue of possible water leaks resulting in high water bills at the Dog Kennel Lane allotments was raised and the Allotment Representative offered to investigate this over the forthcoming weekend.

An email had been received from the Chorleywood Scouting Association for the goodwill and support received from the Parish Council since the Beaver Scouts had taken over the allotments at the start of the year.

General:

To address the issue raised of fencing and overhanging trees, the Clerk suggested that a tree and fencing survey could be undertaken with the findings reported to the Open Spaces Committee in January 2012. In response to a question from the allotment holders regarding their recent visits to the allotments, Councillors present advised that they had been very impressed with all three sites and those that had been on similar visits in previous years commented that they could see improvements over the years with the change over the last 3 – 4 years remarkable.

The Clerk took the opportunity to personally thank the Ranger Andrew Goddard and the Cemetery Administrator for the improvements made over the last year

11/06 ALLOTMENT REPRESENTATIVES

The Allotment Representatives for Dog Kennel lane and The Swillett, Mr McCarthy and Mr Layzell, confirmed that they were happy to continue in the role of representative for their respective allotment sites and there being no other nominations were appointed for the following year. The Allotment Representative for Copmans Wick had confirmed prior to the meeting that due to personal circumstances he no longer wished to continue in the role. A volunteer came forward and there being no other nominations, Mr Hubbard was appointed for the forthcoming year. A letter of thanks would be written to the previous representative for Copmans Wick for the role he had played over a number of years.

11/07 CLOSURE

The meeting having commenced at 7 pm closed at 7.35 pm.