

# Hereford Allotment & Leisure Gardeners

## Site Rep Meeting Minutes

Date: 15th April 2024

Attendees: Malcolm Watkin (MW), Tasha Bennett (TB), Derek Mumford (DM), Val Simms (VS), Pauline Shannon (PS), Roy Matthews (RM), Mick Paine (MP), Annie Jones (AJ), Helen Cooper-Bennett (HCB), Jo Sims (JS), Chris Yapp (CY)

Apologies: John Rosser (JR), Jan Poole (JP)

Absent:

Chair: Pauline Shannon (PS)

Previous minutes: All OK.

Matters arising:

Site rep reports by exception

**Ash:** Update from PS:

- Water reading: 840
- Overhanging trees unable to prune due to birds nesting.
- Plot holders are slow at planting but this is due to the weather. It has been very wet.

**College:** Update from JS:

- Water reading
- One plot holder has given up but it has been relet.
- The plot holder who wanted chickens is having a rethink and will let JS know if he wants to proceed.
- Grass has been cut.
- Hedge has been cut back.
- Still issues with residents parking and blocking access to site.

**Corporation:** Update from AJ:

- Water reading 01668 - water turned on
- A plot holder has had to give up due to health reasons. The plot has been relet.
- Most people have made a start but the weather has been raining, windy and cold.

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- A polytunnel has been put up and has been caught by the wind. Hoping that the polytunnel doesn't blow and cause damage to other plots. Needs secured better by the plot holder.
- Thursday AJ will be going to Drybridge to help HCB with the school visit.

### **Drybridge:** Update from HCB:

- Water reading: 01834 water turned back on - no leaks
- Most plots are being worked on.
- HCB was given a hedge trimmer but no hedges at Drybridge so she has given it to MW to distribute where it's needed.
- Awaiting dates from schools for school visits. Our Ladies reception class will be visiting. Saturday PM, two teachers from Madley school attended to complete risk assessment and they are looking forward to visiting Thursday afternoon.
- Thanks for the IBC link - 2 plot holders have already ordered.
- Whatsapp page being used well.
- One plot holder has given up and has been relet.

### **Eign:** Site rep unable to attend meeting:

- Water reading:
- Water will be turned on Sunday 21/04/24
- Majority of plots are being worked on.
- Two letters of concern sent. One plot holder has started work on a plot following this.
- Request to have trees cut back some time this year.

### **Holmer:** Update from MW & TB:

- Water reading: 3996 skate park: (new meter installed). Water meter going to the skatepark someone has run over it so not able to read it. MW is going to try and sort.
- Water turned on and 2 tanks fixed as leaking - thank you MW for sorting.
- Soil mound needs moving and scalplings laid as per the gateway improvement works but it has been too wet.
- Hedge on the left hand side as leaving the site still needs cutting back to help visibility as was agreed.
- All plots are let.

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- Most are being worked but the weather has been incredibly wet and difficult to get on the plots.
- Gate wasn't always locked at night. It was advised that this was due to how wet and muddy it was at the bottom (rather flooded). Every attempt should be made to lock the gate for the plot holder who is the last to leave the site.
- One of the plot holders has made some alterations to the chain on the gate to try and make it easier to close. Thank you to this plot holder who has done this.
- DM will make contact with Highways and the City Council about the wall and hedge road side.
- Grass mowed today (15/04).

### **Rockfield:** Update from DM :

- Water reading:
- David and Syliva have resigned as site reps. PS thanks them for all the hard work over the years in helping at the allotments. This is
- DM advised most plots are let and being worked.
- DM advised one water butt is leaking as overfilling. DM has made a temporary repair. He has got replacement parts and will make permanent repairs.

### **Westfaling:** Update from JP:

- Water reading:
- Majority of plots are being worked on but the weather has been a nuisance.
- All water tanks bar one have had a thorough clean out.
- A plot holder has kindly made new wooden lids with hinges and handles for all the tanks - Thank you.
- Plot holders are being encouraged to use water butts.
- Tree stump by shed on plot 1 has caused damage to the shed. JP has been in contact with MW and VS and VS is arranging for someone to remove it. The shed will need to be dismantled completely as it has damaged the roof and sides.

### **Wordsworth:** Update from MW:

- Meter reading: 5678
- Water has been turned on with no leaks.

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- No issues. A couple of plots not really being worked but weather is not helping.
- Grass mowed today (15/04).

### **AOB:**

- DM advised we are trying for more compostable toilets, one for Eign and one for Westfaling. But it is not on the City Council meeting until June.
- DM handed out the information to site reps regarding IBCs. £45 each delivered to site. If anyone is interested to contact DM on 07772777502.
- JS has had some positive feedback from plot holders on the information sent around the competition. JS says the plot holders are 'enthused' by it.

END OF MEETING

Next Meeting: Monday 20th May 2024 @ 18:30 at Hereford Welsh Club.