

Hereford Allotment & Leisure Gardeners

Site Rep Meeting Minutes

Date: 15th July 2024

Attendees: Malcolm Watkin (MW), Tasha Bennett (TB), Derek Mumford (DM), Roy Matthews (RM), Helen Cooper-Bennett (HCB), Jo Sims (JS), Chris Yapp (CY), Mark Robinson (MR), Annie Jones (AJ), Val Simms (VS), John Rosser (JR)

Apologies: Mick Paine (MP), Jan Poole (JP).

Absent:

Chair: Pauline Shannon (PS)

Previous minutes: All OK.

Matters arising: None

Site rep reports by exception

Ash: Update from PS:

- Water reading: 866
- Ivy by toilet needs tidying but birds currently nesting

College: Update from JS:

- Water reading
- 5 plots have had letters, 3 have not responded so have requested final letters to be sent
- 1 plot holder has given up due to ill health
- 1 additional letter to be sent
- Cars / vans on access road still a problem. JS has been advised that a residents car was parked on site overnight. JS has asked for photos to be taken if seen again. VS asked if JS can forward photos, she will share with the Town Clerk.
- Grass cutting OK, hedge is growing huge, especially as it wasn't topped last year like previous years.
- Any update on getting IBC tanks? No update from DM - He is chasing it.
- Request for chickens - meeting booked for 15/07
- Has had street light at the bottom of the site fixed.

Corporation: Update by email from AJ:

Registered Address: The Fred Bulmer Centre, Wall Street, Hereford, HR4 9HP
Registered Charity Number: 1185338

Hereford Allotment & Leisure Gardeners

Site Rep Meeting Minutes

- Water reading: 01748
- All plots let and most being worked.
- One plot is not being worked as it should do which is being dealt with.
- Storage container has been delivered.
- Site summer get together is scheduled for 27/07.

Drybridge: Update from HCB :

- Water reading: 912
- Grass mowed.
- Thank you Derek for bagging and delivering wood chip to site.
- School visits. Madley school year five.... Three chefs. Three group's. Excellent morning. Everyone was engrossed in their activities. School says best trip they have ever been on. They said well planned. Well organised. They would have happily paid ten pounds per head for that experience. Wow. Huge thank yous to chef Andrew, chef Andy, chef Simon. Big thanks to helpers Caroline, Pauline, Malcolm too. Thank you to plot holders who donated fruit and vegetables. Thank you to Asda petrol garage for donating Union Jack flags which Caroline and myself made into aprons. Thank you to Belmont community centre for the loan of three tables and two gazebo. Thank you to Becca and Rich for their huge gazebo. We all surely would have melted without those. All the children have written letters of thanks.
- Our lady's reception came on Friday 5th July. They had an amazing bug hunt on site. They have sent drawings that each child has done as thank yous.
- Drybridge has had the summer judges on site.
- We had some cases of blight but thanks to the swift action of infected plots that seems to be under control.
- Thank you to Pauline, Malcolm and Annie for all their help with school visits.
- Plot 1B is waiting for IBC. DM is trying to obtain this.

Eign: Update from CY:

- Water reading: 288
- All plots are being worked on apart from one.
- CY has cut the hedge by plot 2.

Hereford Allotment & Leisure Gardeners

Site Rep Meeting Minutes

- A plot holder spotted a rat in compost bin and asked CY what to do with it. They were advised to but water in the compost bin. For all plot holders

Holmer: Update from MW & TB:

- Water reading: 4147 skate park: 43 (new meter installed).
- A plot holder has raised about the toilet floor collapsing. There is a new toilet in the site shed (compost toilet), however it cannot be put in use until the sink is moved in there and the trench dug. A contractor has looked at this today (15/07) and will quote. Once the compost toilet is in use the old toilet will be taken away.

Rockfield: Update from DM :

- Water reading: 7250
- A few tenancies have been terminated. Most of them are being relet. DM has cut some of the 'neglected' plots down.

Westfaling: Update from JP:

- Water reading: 01096
- All plots are looking good. Most are busy harvesting and tidying.
- A neighbour has cut the apple tree due to it hanging over his garden, and is having a new fence.
- I have spoken to a couple of plot holders who need a tidy up.
- Badgers on site doing a lot of damage to plot holders fruit bushes.

Wordsworth: Update from MW:

- Meter reading: 5814
- Half a plot to let.
- Majority of plots are being worked OK.
- Two tanks leaking (slightly) so water was turned off to repair. One has been repaired OK (the tap). The other tank with the old type pipework has not yet been repaired as unable to get the pipe. JR offered to go and have a look on Friday 19/07.

AOB:

- Summer judging update from JR: Thanks must go to Robin for help on what were very hot days, Wednesday the hottest day of the year, and to the Reps for their work in getting the numbers to us and for the work they do during the year. The weather played a big part in

Hereford Allotment & Leisure Gardeners

Site Rep Meeting Minutes

the standard with lots of plants being late in planting such as Sweetcorn which should be 2 feet high, was on most plots only 6-10inches high there was a lack of brassicas across all sites , and because of the lateness in working the plots crops were very small. There is still not enough being done to collect water on a lot of plots not only those judged but on those that had not been entered. Overall the standard was very good with Corporation Farm the best site. We would like to see more enter the competition. Perhaps we could call it by another name to encourage those who are put off from entering competitions. Plots need to be judged on their own not together. For example if a plot holder has a plot 37 and plot 6 they need to be judged as two separate plots, not as one. The Trustees thank the judges for their time.

- Applying for finding (PS): Does anyone have any experience or know of anyone to apply for funding for charities? If they do and are willing to volunteer some time please let PS know. JS advised she could help with it as she has applied for sports grants.

END OF MEETING

Next Meeting: Monday 19th August 2024 @ 19:00 at The Railway Club.