

# Hereford Allotment & Leisure Gardeners

## Site Rep Meeting Minutes

Date: 21st October 2024

Attendees: Malcolm Watkin (MW), Tasha Bennett (TB), Derek Mumford (DM), Chris Yapp (CY), Mark Robinson (MR), Annie Jones (AJ), Val Simms (VS), Mick Paine (MP), Jan Poole (JP), David Fletcher (DF), Dan Watkins (DW), Molly Anderson (MA)

Apologies: John Rosser (JR), Jo Simms (JS), Roy Matthews (RM)

Absent:

Chair: Pauline Shannon (PS)

Previous minutes: CY wanted to know why the site report was not included in the minutes last month. He sent his apologies as could not attend the meeting but could not send the site report. VS explained she took the minutes and didn't have the site report as this was sent to TB. TB explained that due personal reasons she could not send on the site report or attend the last meeting. CY confirmed he understood.

Matters arising: None

### Site rep reports by exception

**Ash:** Update from PS:

- Water reading:
- Lots of weeds and mud and people not going there as regularly that they would normally do this time of year. Doesn't have plots so bad that would require a letter and hoping after a few dry days people will go.
- Water will be turned off on 1st November but PS will try to keep the toilets open so long as people use a bucket to flush.

**College:** JS sent apologies:

- Water reading

**Corporation:** Update from AJ:

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- Water reading: 01822
- What hasn't been drowned out by the rain is slowly 'going over.'
- A couple of people are giving up plots.

### **Drybridge:** Update from DW and MA:

- Water reading: 019931
- Concerns on a couple of plots not being worked.
- Some trees to be cut back between 2 boundaries. Do not know if HALGS or Asda are responsible. DM said will need to write to Asda. MA advised it is usually Asda, they cut them last year. MW advised there is a different manager now at Asda so will ascertain who the new manager is.
- Lock was broken.
- The person who kept the chickens at Drybridge is giving up. There are around 3 to 4 people at Drybridge who are interested in taking over the plot and keeping communal chickens. The previous plot holder has requested £100 for the complete chicken setup.

### **Eign:** Update from CY:

- Water reading:
- One plot holder wants to put up a polytunnel 3mx2m - all ok.
- Trees have been cut back and some plot holders want to know why. DM explained due to neighbours complaining.
- Lock has been taken off the toilet ready for it to be taken away this week.
- The water has been turned off on the tanks.
- One plot has not been worked this year due to illness. The site rep will speak with them this weekend to ascertain if they want to keep it on next year.
- Site got flooded again.

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

- Water reading: 4266 skate park: 57
- Water has been switched off.
- A plot holder has asked MR if some students from the blind college could visit Holmer to carry out some low grade maintenance. MW will contact the plot holder for further details.
- Waiting for Acer to cut the trees down by the Starting Gate pub.

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- Some plots require letter of concern.
- Issues with flooding at the bottom of site during recent heavy rain. MW will arrange for the gullies to be emptied. It is unfortunate for the plot holders involved. This does happen on most sites, with Eign being the most affected. It is likely this will continue to happen year on year with increased rainfall we seem to be getting each year. If plot holders who are affected by the flooding wish to move to another plot or site which does not flood then we can arrange this when plots become available.

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

- Water reading: 7359
- A couple of problems DF has been escalated to the committee.
- DF asked if he can order a bag of scalpings. VS confirmed this was OK.
- Toilet doesn't shut from the inside. DF cannot make it shut.
- DF asked about a plot holder who enquired about prizes for new gardeners. DF and VS advised this was answered at the last meeting.
- Two requests from two plot holders for copies of the constitution. DF was advised this is on the website.
- One plot holder asked for minutes for 2024 AGM. It was explained that these will be uploaded after the 2025 AGM as the minutes are agreed at the following AGM meeting.
- Sylvia Fletcher and DF would like to thank the committee for arranging the Thursday meeting that was arranged to clear the air. However, Sylvia has some questions about the email that was sent. PS advised the site rep meeting was not the right forum for this and that she will discuss with him. PS stated that the email had been agreed with by Sylvia on behalf of herself and DF.
- DF gave TB their new email address.

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

- Water reading: 01134
- Everyone is working putting everyone to bed for the winter.

### **Wordsworth:** Update from MP:

- Meter reading: 5892
- Water turned off.

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- Hedges are all trimmed.
- 3 plots flooded, 2 have not dried up, 1 still underwater.
- MP has been trying to ascertain who intends to keep on with their plot next year. Two are definitely giving up their plot at the end of the year.
- MP may require some scalpings at some point over the winter. VS advised this would be OK.

### **AOB:**

- Nothing to raise.

END OF MEETING

Next Meeting: Monday 18th November 2024 @ 19:00 at The Railway Club.