

## HANSLOPE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Allotment Committee held on Thursday 6th June 2024, 2pm - Pavilion,  
Hanslope Recreation Ground, MK19 7LG.

### Minutes

Present: P Cook (Chair) Cllr R Simpkins  
F Scott  
G Merry (recording) Members of Public: 0

#### 24.017 Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr Laurie. Cllr Pacheco was absent.

#### 24.018 Declarations of interest

Ms Scott and Mrs Cook declared an interest as allotment tenants themselves.

#### 24.019 Minutes of the last meeting held 11/04/24

**MOTION:** To agree the minutes of the meeting held April 11th 2024, PROPOSED by Mrs Cook, SECONDED by Ms Scott and AGREED

#### 24.020 Public Participation: No items.

#### 24.021 Admin.

- i. **Vacancies/ waiting list and payments:** Cllr Simpkins advised there were no vacant plots and 1 name on the waiting list. The clerk reported only 1 payment outstanding and reiterated that having outstanding payments, hinders payment to the SWCAA, meaning those tenants are not yet insured.
- ii. **New wording in the rules:** Cllr Simpkins had circulated the new wording and this was discussed. Invoices will now go out from the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, with payment due in by 31<sup>st</sup> December latest. Failure to pay by this date, will be taken as intentional non-renewal, giving the council authority to re-let the plot without further notice.  
**MOTION:** The new wording was PROPOSED by Cllr Simpkins SECONDED by Mrs. Cook and AGREED
- iii. **Community Event:** The dates for a BBQ were discussed and 28/7/24 or 4/8/24 were suggested. A tenant had offered to organise the event and the committee will be on hand to support this. The parish council will be asked for a £50 donation to cover food and guests can bring their own drinks.
- iv. **Risks/Hazards:** There were currently no significant hazards, committee members will check again before the next meeting.
- v. **Progress on CAD:** Measuring is still in progress.

#### 24.022 Maintenance

- i. **Contractor, mowing update and condition of site:** After a very wet start to the growing season, the site was now drying out. The contractor does 8 cuts during the season and it will be monitored in case this needs adjusting.
- ii. **Ongoing maintenance of Communal Spaces, gates etc:** Maintenance is generally good. However, Cllr Simpkins pointed out that there is approx. £13K available for allotments, in S106 monies. It was agreed to work on applying to this, for replacement of the 'back' fence and the

clerk agreed to obtain 3 quotes. An extra strimmer and new mower would also be useful and could be added to an allotment 'project' application. The committee agreed to consider this and let the clerk know costs etc.

- iii. **Any other maintenance issues:** Having a skip 3 times a year was discussed but it was agreed that as-and-when needed was better. The pothole in front of the gate was now even larger and it was agreed the committee will buy and install MOT themselves. Ms Scott will check quantities and advise. It was discussed whether to keep the £20 deposit for borrowing equipment and agreed this would be retained. Tool hire had increased from last year, especially the mower and the strimmer. Mr Laurie had replaced the head from the strimmer and had advised he was willing to strim untenanted plots where necessary.

**MOTION:** To agree actions as above AGREED.

**24.023 Plot Inspections/issues with plots**

- i. **Plot inspection:** All plots holders contacted in May and requested to tidy their plots, had done some work with the exception of 55b. It was discussed and agreed that when the 28-days was up (on 12/6/24), eviction proceedings would be instigated if no work had taken place. Plots 75A and 44 were in an extremely poor state and this was discussed. Neither tenant had worked their plots for months. It was agreed that 28-day eviction notices would go out to these 2 tenants.

**MOTION:** Agreed eviction letters to go out as detailed above PROPOSED by Mrs Cook SECONDED by Ms Scott and AGREED.

**24.024 Date of next meetings:**

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024 – 2pm

..... Signed (Chairman)

..... Date