

CERNE VALLEY PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 27th March 2024 on site

Present: Cllrs M. Keating, C. Crosbie, and K. Burghart
7 plot holders

1. Apologises for absence

All members were present.

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests

No declarations were made.

3. To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on 28th September 2023

These were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Chairman's update

There were no matters that were not on the agenda.

5. Site inspection and risk assessment

A walk around prior to the meeting highlighted 3-4 plots that needed work on.
This will be noted in the annual newsletter.

It was agreed that the risk assessment do not need any updates.

6. Plot availability

At present all plots were taken, but it was likely that 2 plots would become available in the near future.

7. Finance update

Receipts

Rents	£ 898.35
Precept	£ 300.00

Payments

Rents	£ 898.35
Precept	£ 277.74

Surplus	£ 22.66
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Reserves	£ 2851.08
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8. Items for discussion

a. Hire of skip

It was agreed it was to wet for the skip. A date in a few weeks would be set.

b. Date and support for allotments social

A provisional date was set for 28 Jul 24 @ 6pm.

c. Prizes for best allotment

It was agreed that £50 should be put up for the top three prizes.

d. Allotment track fencing quote

The quote of £310 was accepted. Funds to come from the Allotments reserve.

e. Wheelbarrow repair

It was confirmed that the inflatable tyre was replaced with a solid one.

f. Wildflower area

It was agreed to continue with this project.

g. Path at bottom of allotments through compost area

Concerns were raised that green waste was being deposited close to other people's plots.

It was asked if direction(s) could be given to ensure this stops.

The Clerk was concerned that any formalisation of a compost area would result (potentially) in having to abide by terms and conditions of a communal composting area.

To that end, it was agreed that a strong note would be put in the newsletter for plot holders to dispose of green waste in accordance with their lease agreement.

h. Memorial garden for General Sir Richard Vickers

Members agreed to leave this as a flower garden (but not in memory of).

Flowers could be offered to the Church.

9. General discussion period

It was requested if slug pellets could not be used on the allotments as these may be poisonous to hedgehogs.

After a discussion it was agreed that the blue pellets were poisonous and a message would be placed in the newsletter, requesting for them NOT to be used.

The ongoing issue of strimming edges was again mentioned.

A question was raised as to the locking of the shed. It was confirmed that it should be locked, and a sign placed on the shed.

On the same subject, it was asked if the play tunnel should be closed.

It was noted that the play tunnel should be closed if not in use.

The ownership of the track was brought up.

It was confirmed that the owner was not known as per Land Registry, but the Parish Council via the allotments committee will action any major issues if they arise.

10. Items and date for next meeting

It was agreed to set the next after the elections on the 02nd May 2024.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 5.53pm.

Karen Burghart

Chair