**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**Held on Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 6:00pm at Normanton Town Hall**

Present: Councillor B. Mayne

 Councillor Mrs P. Mayne – Vice-Chairman

 Councillor R. Seal

 Councillor A. Wassell - Chairman

Absent: Councillor Mrs E. Blezard, Councillor S. Hudson, Councillor K. Wilson, JP.

Public: Site Secretary of Cypress Road Allotments

 Site Secretary of Gladstone Street Allotments

 Site Secretary of Heys Buildings Allotments

 Representative of Heys Buildings Allotments

 Representative of Heys Buildings Allotments

 Site Secretary of Newland Lane Allotments

 Representative of Newland Lane Allotments

 Site Secretary of Wentworth Terrace Allotments

**32. Welcome and Apologies**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

It was reported that the Deputy Mayor of Normanton and member of the Allotments Committee, Councillor Mrs Mary Vickers and long serving allotment tenant, Norman Jones had recently passed away. Members observed a minute’s silence as a mark of respect.

Apologies were received and reasons approved on behalf of Councillor Mrs E. Blezard and Councillor S. Hudson.

**33. Members Declarations of Interest**

Members were reminded of the requirement to make an appropriate declaration at the meeting on any item in which they had an interest.

 There were no declarations made.

**34. MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Allotments Committee held on 18th April 2018 (Minute Numbers 23-28; Pages 17-21) be received as a true record and the contents contained therein be approved.

RESOLVED that the notes of a meeting of the Allotments Committee held on 15th August 2018 be received as a true record and the contents contained therein be approved.

RESOLVED that the minutes of a meeting of the Allotments Committee held on 16th November 2018 (Minute Numbers 29-31; Page 22) be received as a true record and the contents contained therein be approved.

**35. Reports from Sites**

Cypress Road

Things on site are going well and the site is full.

One tenant needs monitoring - Council aware.

There are 1.5 plots being given up in the next few weeks.

Ellins Terrace 1

The site is OK.

Two tenants need monitoring – Council aware.

Ellins Terrace 2

The site is ok.

Heys Buildings

There are a few changes on plots and another tenant may be giving half a plot up soon.

There have been break ins recently and access is via the WMDC land at Heys Buildings.

The trench issue on plot 8 appears to have been resolved.

Plot 7 – shed roof is in a poor condition – to be inspected.

Gladstone Street

There are 5 empty plots but the Site Secretary is reluctant to let them.

Recent allocations have not gardened their plot, so he feels like his time is wasted if people don’t garden.

The Site Secretary indicated that he would be happier for someone else to take over.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk would find another volunteer.

Newland Lane

1.5 vacant plots and 1 key to be returned.

Plots are being allocated but not gardened – suggested that during winter this is understandable.

There has been an issue with one tenant constantly burning but this seems to have calmed down recently.

Wentworth Terrace

There are 4 on the waiting list and none of them want to take plot 26.

The pigeon man is relocating so that may give an opportunity to clear those plots and allow more light on to plot 26.

There had been a complaint about a bonfire and the Site Secretary had spoken to the complainant.

The locks at front and back of the site had been broken and replaced with coded locks.

The front gate needs repair and a wheel attaching.

**36. Town Council Update**

Cypress Road

Wasps nest cleared.

Gates repaired (dropped).

Review of tenant who wasn’t working his plots and had created craters and mounds.

Complaints that plots aren’t being allocated despite no plots being vacant.

Vacancies - 0 (was 3 last year)

Waiting list - 16

Ellins Terrace 1

Multiple complaints regarding unruly tenants.

Tenant refusing to obey site rules and bringing on excess wood.

Eviction and subsequent appeal plus site visits undertaken.

Cart track damaged.

Development plan identified surrounding land for building – objections submitted.

One tenant with excess livestock – to investigate.

Vacancies - 6 (15, 21, 23, 24, 32, 41) Only one from last year (was 5 vacancies last year)

Waiting List - 10

Ellins Terrace 2

Dumping of rubbish on a plot that was previously cleared.

Development plan identified surrounding land for building – objections submitted.

No site secretary.

Vacancies - 5 (56, 59, 60, 75, 77) Three from last year (was 2 vacancies last year)

Waiting List - 13

Gladstone Street

Complaints from tenants that plots are vacant.

Contact with WDH re tree cutting.

Vacancies - 7 (5, 12, 14, 15, 17, 35, 8b) 3 from last year (was 4 vacancies last year)

Waiting List - 22

Heys Buildings

One long term plot vacated and quotes being obtained for clearance.

Thefts and vandalism on site.

Fencing installed.

Dangerous greenhouse demolished.

Vacancies - 2 (17/18) recently vacated and requiring clearance (was 0 last year)

Waiting List - 15

Newland Lane

One tenant burning constantly.

Break ins.

Fencing replaced last summer.

Vacancies - 2 (7, 40) was 0 last year

Waiting List - 15

Norwood Street

No issues or contact recently.

Vacancies - 2 (5, 8) one from last year (was 1 last year)

Waiting List - 7

Wentworth Terrace

Problems with gate – work ordered.

Water leak last year.

Asbestos garage, greenhouse and scattered asbestos removed from site.

Vacancies - 2 (26, 39) (was 2 last year but different)

Waiting List - 6

The Chairman thanked members of the Committee for accompanying the Town Clerk on recent inspections at Ellins Terrace.

In the absence of any further business the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.