

BRANDON & BYSHOTTLES PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES,
6 GOATBECK TERRACE, LANGLEY MOOR, DURHAM
ON TUESDAY 7TH JUNE 2022, AT 10.00 AM

PRESENT

Councillor Jamieson (in the Chair)
and Councillors Bonner, Sims and Turnbull

All. 1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

To nominate the Chairman of the Council.

RESOLVED: To elect Councillor Jamieson as Chairman.

All. 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

All. 3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clegg, Mrs Catterson and Mrs Elmer.

RESOLVED: To receive the apologies.

All. 4 SKIP PRICE INCREASE

Notification had been received from the skip hire company that a price increase would be introduced from 1st July 2022.

RESOLVED: To recommend to take for information.

All. 5 COCKHOUSE LANE – REQUEST FOR PEST CONTROL TREATMENT

A tenant had requested a pest control treatment for the above mentioned allotment site due to increased sighting of rats. Information and costs had been requested and received from Durham County Council.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer arranges a short cycle of pest control treatments on the recommendation of the Pest Control Team at Durham County Council.

To write to all tenants to inform them and send a calendar of dates out.

To monitor the situation and assess at the end of the treatment cycle.

All. 6 STATION AVENUE

a) REQUEST FOR SKIP

A tenant had requested the provision of a skip for the site.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotment Officer arranges for the provision of a skip.

To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to all tenants to inform them of the details regarding the provision of the skip.

b) PLOT 20 – REQUEST TO KEEP LIVESTOCK ON PLOT

A request had been received by a new tenant to house animals on the above mentioned plot, including approx. 10 hens and a couple of rabbits.

RESOLVED: To recommend writing to the tenant granting permission to house the specified animals (no cockerels). To inform the tenant that he must house the animals and keep them secure on his plot. To inform the tenant that they must also remove any livestock upon termination of their tenancy.

All. 7 LOW BROWNEY

a) REQUEST FOR SKIP

A tenant had requested the provision of a skip for the site.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotment Officer arranges for the provision of a skip.

To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to all tenants to inform them of the details regarding the provision of the skip.

b) PLOT 17 - REQUEST TO ERECT A GREENHOUSE

A tenant had requested permission to build a greenhouse (approx. 8ft x 6ft).

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to the tenant to inform them that their request has been approved on the condition that the greenhouse be kept in good condition and removed at the end of the tenancy unless informed otherwise.

All. 8 HAMILTON ROW – REQUEST FOR SKIP

A tenant had requested the provision of a skip for the site.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotment Officer arranges for the provision of a skip.

To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to all tenants to inform them of the details regarding the provision of the skip.

All. 9 EMPIRE FIELD

a) REQUEST FOR SKIP

A tenant had requested the provision of a skip for the site.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotment Officer arranges for the provision of a skip.

To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to all tenants to inform them of the details regarding the provision of the skip.

b) PLOT SP003A – REQUEST TO ERECT POLYTUNNEL

A tenant had requested permission to erect a polytunnel.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to the tenant to inform them that their request has been approved on the condition that the polytunnel be kept in good condition and removed at the end of the tenancy unless informed otherwise.

All. 10 COMMERCIAL STREET

a) REQUEST FOR 2 SKIPS

Several new tenants on the allotment site had requested the provision of a skip for the site.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotment Officer arranges for the provision of two skips.

To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to all tenants to inform them of the details regarding the provision of the skip.

b) PLOT 3 – REQUEST TO KEEP LIVESTOCK

A request had been received by a new tenant to house animals, including ducks, chickens and geese, on the above mentioned plot.

RESOLVED: To recommend writing to the tenant granting permission to house the chickens and ducks, in accordance with the specific site allotment agreement.

Geese are prohibited from the site, except for those which were present before the introduction of the new agreement in 2022.

To inform the tenant that they must also remove any livestock upon termination of their tenancy.

c) PLOT 10 – REQUEST TO ERECT POLYTUNNEL / SHED / TO KEEP LIVESTOCK ON PLOT

A request had been received by a new tenant to erect a polytunnel, shed and house animals on the above mentioned plot.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to the tenant to inform them that their request to erect a polytunnel and a shed has been approved (in accordance with the site agreement) on the condition that they must be kept in good condition and removed at the end of the tenancy unless informed otherwise.
To recommend granting permission to house the livestock, in accordance with the specific site allotment agreement.

All. 11 BROOMPARK – REQUEST FOR SKIP

A tenant had requested the provision of a skip for the site.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotment Officer arranges for the provision of a skip.

To recommend that the Allotments Officer writes to all tenants to inform them of the details regarding the provision of the skip.

All. 12 SITE VISITS TO ALLOTMENTS

Members discussed options and;

RESOLVED: To recommend site visits with the Allotment Committee Members and the appropriate Ward Members are arranged as soon as possible.

If appropriate Ward Members are not available for site visits, the Chairman will attend.

All. 13 LOW MEADOWFIELD

a) ISSUES REGARDING ACCESS

It has been brought to the Allotments Officers attention that a dispute, regarding access to the above mentioned allotment site, is occurring between tenants and residents.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer displays a notice on the site notice board reminding both residents and tenants of the site access, i.e. the Parish Council allotment tenants have an established right of access to the site using the road at the rear of Lobley Hill road.

That the tenants should refer to their allotment agreement – i.e. avoid parking in the street and only use the road/path for drop off purposes when essential.

b) REQUEST FOR PEST CONTROL TREATMENT

A tenant had requested a pest control treatment for the above mentioned allotment site due to increased sighting of rats.

RESOLVED: To recommend that the Allotments Officer requests a site visit from Durham County Council pest control team to assess the site for any rat activity.

The meeting closed at 11.20pm

Signed 

Date 17.6.22