

Rotherham Allotments Alliance

Maintenance Committee Meeting No.10

On Meeting Date: Monday 20th February 2023

Meeting Location: Online: Zoom

Meeting Called By: Brian Steele

Chair: Brian Steele

Secretary: Jack Taylor (Minutes Donna Bushby)

Present: Directors: Brian Steele (BS), Jack Taylor (JT), Mick Hirst (MH), Tess Sheen (TS) and Allotment Support Assistant – Donna Bushby (DB).

M081/02/23 (1) Apologies: None received.

M082/02/23 (2) Minutes from previous meeting – 30th January 2023
Moved as a true record by JT and duly signed by the chairperson.

M083/02/23 (3) Matters Arising

- a) South Street shed doors – DB/MH visited the site. Not been fitted properly and damage to brick work. DB has spoken to contractor. Hibbards have requested to do the remedial work. Invoice will be paid once the work has been done to a satisfactory condition.
- b) South Street unlettable plot – it was previously agreed that a rent reduction would not be given. The society have advised nobody is interested in the plot and have limited chance to clear it themselves. It is an inherited plot from the previous committee. The cost of clearing needs to be considered against the cost of the refund which is £52. It was voted 3:1 in favour to allow the £52 to be removed from the society invoice for this year only. The site does have path works outstanding through the £100k that needs organising.
- c) Greasbrough asbestos - community payback have found a pile of asbestos. Price of £690 has been quoted. Wood St also have some sheets to pick up. This expenditure was approved and DB to check if all can be collected together. Finding asbestos will be a continuous activity due to its past use. It might be more cost effective for smaller fragments to be bagged up and taken to Greasbrough recycling centre which needs to be booked in first. Some heavy-duty bags are in the lock-up and PPE is available. Tenants should be given the bags to bag it up and a director will collect.
- d) St Leonard's – shed doors locks – reports of issues with 2 shed doors. 1 needed tightening up and no issue found with the other one. Tenants need to be mindful of making repairs themselves where possible.

M084/02/23 (4) Rectory Field / Greasbrough - Restorative Justice - update

- a) Community Payback has changed into 2 groups - a clearance team and growing team (got a plot on Greasbrough and Clifton). Clearance will need to be booked in with Glyn Staves. Further clearance is required on plot 45 on Greasbrough so will need a skip. Clearance and a skip has been arranged for Rectory Field. The car park surface does need putting down as soon as possible to stop further dumping.

M085/02/23 (5) Other Works / Special Projects / Outstanding issues

- a) Hartley Lane / Vicarage Fields trees have been completed – both residents happy and invoices have been paid.
- b) Moor Rd drainage – contractor has been chased in regard to the drain location. Also been brought to attention by a tenant that plot 17 is full of Mare's Tail roots. Also, plot 12 has no topsoil and is all clay. Tenant is waiting for a suitable plot to become available. The Mare's Tail will need spraying when growth restarts in the spring. JT can complete this.
- c) Barnsley rd paths – quote been received for all the paths. Quote is higher than previous contractor. Decision needs to be made on which areas can be done within the budget (£9130 plus VAT). Needs discussion with the society and the contractor as some areas are worse than others. DB to contact them.

d) Still need to obtain a price for clearance works at High St and Lowfield Ave.

M086/02/23 (6) Pest Control Update

- a) No issues to report. A stock update has been submitted.
- b) Question asked regarding when to restart baiting traps. It was advised that this should be done when pest activity increases.

M087/02/23 (7) Any Other Business

- a) Vicarage Fields require more poison – to be arranged. Also would like a skip arranging. A quote has been obtained for the drainage on the plots that flood - £1740. Directors discussed if it was worth spending the money on the 2 plots. It was agreed that the works aren't viable, given the cost and rent return.
- b) Tenant on High St responded to letter sent to them regarding a complaint. DB to send letters / emails to all tenants to remind them of the rules due to a number recent issues that have arisen.

M088/02/23 (8) Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Updates on this meeting.

M089/02/23 (9) Date of Next Meeting

Board meeting – Monday 20th March – 1pm.

BS thanked everyone who attended and the meeting was closed at 2.50pm.

Signed  (Chair)