

Pretoria Road Allotment Society

Minutes of the committee meeting held at the allotment site 12th March 2017

Those present:- Les Brooks - Chairman
Mike Stinchcomb - Vice-chairman
Roger Fussell - Secretary
Darren Bowden
Diana Sidwell
Terry Wall
Norman Bradford

Apologies for absence: Derek Howell, Kelly Morgan-Ramseyer.

The chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. The minutes from our last meeting (8th January 2017) were adopted and signed off by the chairman.

Item one. From Roger. Can we please have an update on when PTC plan to start work on our new parking area?

Les reported that PTC say they will start work on this as soon as possible. There is no promise of a start date. Members were not very happy with this news, as the season is starting and we will now start to experience much higher demand for parking facilities. PTC have had heaps of time to debate refer and decide on this matter and we would like to call on them to just get on with the project now.

In the meantime, Les suggests that committee members use the concrete area adjacent to Longney place, when our normal parking area is under pressure.

Item Two. From Roger. Can we please have an update on the purchase of water butts for our new gazebo project?

Les advised us that a place known as “The Gin Palace” could supply, but that they need constant chasing to keep them on the case. Les is to take this on. Norman has found a potential source of supply and will follow up on this and keep the committee informed.

Roger has undertaken to contact our former Vice-Chair to get details of the original intended supplier to see if anything has changed with regard to stocks.

Item Three. From Roger. Have the council been spoken to about the possibility of creating a better surface just outside of our main gate, to allow easier access for the disabled and wheelchair users?

Les tells us that PTC have put this matter up for discussion with their finance committee. They will try to combine this work with the proposed new parking area. They will advise Les in due course.

Again, we would urge PTC to move quickly on this, for the reasons given in Item one.

AOB. * With regard to the Easter Fun Day on 8th April 2017, the following items have been agreed upon...

1. Les will arrange the welly throwing area
2. Di is to get her Daughter involved in setting clues for the Easter Egg Hunt.
3. Some cakes etc. to be provided by Les, Di and Roger
4. Di is to obtain a tub of sweets for the “guess the number of sweets” competition
- Kelly has asked that we come up with some uses for the Tesco grant of £5,000 which is up for grabs.

In the event that we did win this, some possible uses could be...

1. Refurbish the entrance to the kitchen area
2. Setting up a wildflower garden
3. Use of Solar panels
4. Improvements to water harvesting
5. Refurbish main gate entrance as per item 3
6. Set up fencing around the sides of our designated compost plot
- Mike has advised us that a team from UWE, concerned with drought risk and flooding, will visit the site on 29th April 2017 to talk to some of us and to hear how we have coped in the past with droughts and flooding on the plots. Mike is to make plot holders aware of this visit and will also put a notice on our website.
- Terry has offered the committee some sapling trees for further planting around the perimeter of the site. The committee thank Terry for this generous gift.
- The committee has agreed that we will have a short meeting regarding the Easter Fun Day, on 1st April 2017 at 10.00 am.

On that note, the meeting was closed.