# PRETORIA ROAD ALLOTMENT SOCIETY – MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11th APRIL 2021

**Committee Members Present:** **Les Brooks – Chairman**

**Mike Stinchcomb – Vice Chairman**

**Derek Howell - Treasurer**

**Diana Sidwell – Minute Secretary**

**Doug Blackwell- Secretary**

**Mary Hayward**

**Norman Bradford**

**Alex Dommett**

**Apologies: Terry Wall**

The Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 13th February 2021 were agreed and adopted.

1. **Boundary Fence – Ongoing issues/upodate**

Currently, PTC remain in dispute with SGC over the exact fence boundary line. SGC`s surveyor will be on site next week to peg out their proposed fence line. Committee members will then meet with PTC to discuss what benefits could be provided for the Allotment site as part of any negotiations that then take place. It has been agreed that Mike, Doug, Derrick and Les, as senior committee members will liaise with PTC/SGC. PTC are in agreement with this. They will continue to update the wider Committee Members and should any situations arise where a formal Committee” Vote” is needed a full Committee Meeting will be called. Mary felt that that we should not be pressurised by the PTC or, for that matter, any other group meetings, over who does or does not attend these meetings, particularly if a person has all the qualifications she felt they should be allowed to attend. Norman said we have, over the years, always got on well with PTC and this must continue.

1. **Mike Stinchcomb – Constitutional Issues**

Mike said that the Constitution does permit emergency decisions being taken and this is what had happened previously when Les, Derek and himself had met on site with PTC and following discussions gave permission for the “grubbing out” of the whole scrub area. It is only the first time that this action has been taken.

1. **Di Sidwell**  –“ **Wood Chip”- raised by Chris and Claire Plot 3**

A plot holder had raised the question whether we would like Tree Surgeon contractors to have access to the site to deposit “wood chip”. Les said in previously years contractors had been allowed to leave compost but it had caused major problems as rubbish had also been deposited which then had to be cleared from the site. The Committee felt it could cause similar problems with a “wood chip mountain” being created.

4 **Di Sidwell – AGM**

Following discussion and providing the Governments regulations on easing lockdown have come to an end on the 21 June, it was agreed that the AGM should be held on 3rd July. The meeting will be held at 11 oclock outside at the Allotment Site followed by a BBQ.

5 **Di Sidwell – Circulation of emails**

Just to remind Committee members that agreement had previously been made to limit the “round robin” circulation of emails. Email should be circulated on a need to know basis.

**6 Mike Stinchcomb/Doug Blackwell – discussion of incident that took place on site on Friday 19th March**

It was felt by all that the issue has now been dealt with. Alex has given her statement and a line should now be drawn under the incident.

**7 Mary Hayward – Allotment Society Meetings with other groups/agencies**

The has item has been discussed under item 2.

**8 Mary Hayward – The growing rubbish pile at the far end of the Allotment Site**

Mary asked what was going to happen to the rubbish that had been uncovered when the scrub had been removed. It had been mentioned, during discussion with PTC that a skip would be provided. Derek said that we have sufficient funds and could provide a skip. We would then need to keep a watchful eye to ensure that litter does not accumulate again. Doug will again reiterate to all plot holders that rubbish must not be dumped and plot holders found to be doing this would instantly be asked to leave the site. He also felt that Committee Members should challenge anyone they found dumping rubbish. The Committee thanked Alex for all her hard work with the litter picking session

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Doug confirmed that he has written to all plot holders regarding the wildlife corridor that exists along the back fence adjacent to Scott Park. The shed placed too close to the boundary fencing has now been moved away from the fence line. He also confirmed that there is only one vacant plot. There are ten people currently on the waiting list and Les had given him six further names that morning.
2. A new Mower has been purchased. Mike advised that he has found a local contractor to service/repair the mowers etc. He will also collect from Allotment Site to service.
3. Di asked when the Kitchen was likely to reopen. It was agreed not until 21st June. However, before then the Kitchen will need to be deep cleaned as mould has formed on some of the surfaces. Mike has donated some paint and it is hoped the kitchen can be cleaned and repainted.

**Date of next Meeting will be Saturday 5th June 2021, 10.30 at the Allotment Site.**

ADDENDUM

1 As per Mike`s email (15/4/21) members of the Committee met on Site this morning (17/4/22) to view the pegged post line. We discussed the proposed fence line and were of the view that it did not greatly impinge on the Site. All agreed that before any work is undertaken by the contractor a new fence MUST be in place to ensure the Allotment Site is secure. The Senior Committee member will now meet with PTC to discuss what should be part of negotiations with Live West.

2 Following several requests from Plot holders it was agree that the water should now be turned on.