

PURLEY ON THAMES PARISH COUNCIL

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS COMMITTEE

**Minutes of the meeting of the Highways and Footpaths Committee
held at the Parish Office on 4th December 2017**

PRESENT Mr B Ayling (Chairman) Mr J Chapman Mr M Bishop Mrs C Collier
Mrs S Briscoe Mr G Rolfe

In attendance: Christine Lamb (Clerk) Sarah Williams (Assistant Clerk)
Mr G Chapman (Hon Allotments Manager)

H17/36 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Mr N Haughton

H17/37 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Mr M Bishop – Allotment holder

H17/38 TO RECEIVE ANY STATEMENT OR QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No members of the public attended.

H17/39 PERIMETER PATH – TO CONSIDER WHETHER TO CLEAR A PATH INSIDE THE ALLOTMENTS.

RESOLVED the Clerk will write to the tenants of plots D1, E1, F1 and G1 to explain that the PC will require access through their plots to make any repairs to the perimeter fence. (unanimous)

RESOLVED that as plots D1, E1, F1 and G1 become available that Parish Council will establish the perimeter footpath (at the northern end of the allotment) before it is let to a new tenant. After which the new tenant will be required to respect and maintain access to this footpath. (unanimous)

RESOLVED to establish new rule for tenants that they must not store items of any kind on the perimeter footpath. (unanimous)

RESOLVED that the Parish Council will cut back the hedge from the entrance to plot A12, from A12 down to A1, from A1 to C1, from H1 to K1 and from K1 to K10b and from K10b to the entrance gate. After this work is complete, allotment rules will be updated to require allotment holders to maintain this perimeter hedge to the standard established by the Parish Council. (unanimous)

The Hon Allotments Manager and Clerk to discuss any follow-up letter to Allotment Holders that may be required.

H17/40 MICRO ALLOTMENT PLOTS – TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE SMALLER PLOTS FOR YOUNG FAMILIES, MATURE ALLOTMENT HOLDERS AND OTHERS UNABLE TO MAINTAIN A HALF OR QUARTER PLOT.

RESOLVED to support the proposal to establish two micro allotment plots to enable the Parish Council to establish the popularity and functionality of micro-plots. The cost of materials being £350.00 was approved.

RESOLVED that the Hon Allotments Manager and Clerk would investigate ‘Employee Volunteering’ Schemes to help build the plots.

H17/41 GREENHOUSES AND STRUCTURES – TO CONSIDER ALLOWING PERMANENT STRUCTURES, EG GREENHOUSES, ON THE PLOTS.

RESOLVED not to change the rules at this time. (2 against, 4 abstained).

The Clerk would investigate what structures may be possible – specifically sheds, greenhouses, poly-tunnels and fruit cages.

H17/42 REVIEW ALLOTMENT RULES – A GENERAL OVERALL REVIEW.

Approved amendments are in italics

RESOLVED to approve the proposal to revise Rule 4 to the following: *The allotment plot must be kept clean, safe and maintained in a good state of cultivation. Tenants must not allow weeds and grass to cause a nuisance to neighbouring plots. A minimum area equal to 75% of the total plot should be cultivated and active during the main growing season. Cutting the grass or covering the plot with plastic or carpet is not considered to be cultivation.* (unanimous)

RESOLVED to approve the proposed to amendment to Rule 8: Dogs **MUST** be kept on a lead and be tethered and must **MUST NOT** be allowed to wander around the allotment garden *or Car Parks*. (unanimous)

RESOLVED to approve the proposal to amend Rule 14 to: Bonfires are permitted on the tenants own plot, only for the purposes of the destruction of organic material *generated from the plot*. (unanimous)

RESOLVED to approve the proposal to amend Rule 9 to say ‘paths bordering plots’ and to add that paths must not be used to store allotment holders equipment to use as a compost area or for planting. (unanimous)

RESOLVED to approve the proposal to amend Rule 10 to say ‘fruit cages’ instead of ‘composting cages’. (unanimous)

The Chairman closed the meeting.

Next Highways and Footpaths Meeting: 8th March 2018