



# Ashbourne Allotment Association Limited

## Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021**

**Location: AAA Site, Watery Lane, Ashbourne**

In attendance were: Barry Morrison BM (Chairman), Suzanne Norton (SN) (Vice Chair), John Scott (JS) (Secretary), Nigel Coe (NC) (Membership secretary), Gill Reynolds (GR), Harry Seed (HS), Frank Jeffery (FJ,) Rick Plant (RP)

**1.0 Apologies:** Max Hathaway (Treasurer) (MH), Mick Chell (MC)

### **2.0 Financial Report: (Max)**

- 2.1 Latest financial report was distributed to the committee members
- 2.2 JS outlined the useable funds available for projects after estimated fixed and estimated future expenditure was taken into consideration.

### **3.0 Membership: Nigel (NC):**

- 3.1 Waiting List: There are 27 people on waiting list. Presently this equates to 4- to 5 year waiting time.
- 3.2 The committee discussed possible means of reducing the waiting list, but no solution to the problem was apparent at this time.
- 3.3 Plot warnings issued:  
A number of plot warnings were issued – these were discussed by the committee.
- 3.4 The question was raised whether we should operate a monetary deposit scheme to cover any remedial work to a plot that is in a poor condition when becoming vacant. Decision: The committee agreed that the procedures and control of such a system would entail too much work at this time; hence rejected the proposal.

### **4.0 Community Shed and Shop. (JS)**

#### 4.1 Shop

- 4.1.1 Shop turnover to date was presented. From March 2020 to August 2021.
- 4.1.2 Potatoes and Onions price list has been received from our supplier. Pre-ordering for 2022 will begin in late September.
- 4.1.3 N.C: Due to Leaf Minor problems this year, N.C. suggested we should check with AAA members their true needs before Onion sets are ordered.

#### 4.2 Community Shed:

- 4.2.1 Mr Revie has purchased the materials to fit new beading to the community shed windows and also to paint and seal the floor.
- 4.2.2 Two methods of installing electrical power to the community shed



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was discussed: 1/ Solar Panels and its associated Invertor. Decision: R.P to investigate costs. 2/ Replacement power generator, the present unit is proving to be unreliable. Decision: B.M. to investigate cost of a replacement.

### **5.0 Compost sales:**

5.1 There are approximately 30 tonne of compost available.

### **6.0 General Site Condition Maintenance**

6.1 Site maintenance: Trees by main gate need cutting back. Decision: To be actioned ASAP.

6.3 Existing water supply to site: J.S. confirmed that the water pressure has been restored.

6.4 An investigation was made into whether increasing the bore size of the existing water supply piping would increase the water pressure to parts of the site that experience pressure drop. We were informed that increasing the bore size of the existing site water pipe would not improve matters.

6.5 Boundary Fencing – see under projects 9.1

### **7.0 Plot Inspections (Harry/Frank)**

7.1 Presentation of plots with problems.

### **8.0 Projects**

8.1 Replacement of Boundary wire fencing: Decision: Agreed to proceed with quoted costs. I.e. to fit new chicken wire over the existing wire, replace posts and post supports where appropriate.

8.1.1 Replacing the wire fencing should conform to the standard described within the Peak District guidelines for rabbit proof fencing. See page 4 of these minutes. J.S. to write to DDDC Estates, stating the need to replace the boundary fencing bordering the field used by Mr Paul Weston.

8.2 Security:

9.2.1 J.S. outlined the possibility of fitting a dual sided combination lock to the main gate – but this would entail moving one of the main gate posts. B.M. suggested that a 6ft high Palisade Gate would overcome many of the security problems that give cause for concern. Decision: Agreed that B.M. would investigate costs.

9.2.2 Should we lock main gate after each entry and exit: Decision: Agreed that we should ask members to lock the main gate after entry and before exit. J.S. to print new notices to that effect.



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8.3 Wilding of the spare ground:

9.3.1 B.M. Outlined difficulties in making the spare ground running parallel to Watery Lane into a Wilding area. Decision: Work entailed was too great, project is dismissed.

**9.0** Website update. (GR)

9.1 Decision: Agreed to put minutes of all Committee meetings onto our website.

**10.0 AOB**

10.1 JS. Raised the question whether we will hold an annual BBQ.

10.1.1 Decision: Agreed to hold a `Picnic Gathering` for all members – members to bring their own food. AAA will supply Tea and Coffee. Date 4<sup>th</sup> September.

John Scott  
16<sup>TH</sup> August 2021



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Conservation Service



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### Guidelines for rabbit proofing a stock fence

Wire netting of the following specification should be used, galvanised 1.05m x 32mm 19 swg rabbit netting.

Rabbit netting should be properly strained and stapled to the outside of the posts and stakes, with the top of the netting at least 75cm above the ground, at the same height as a line wire of the pig net. The rabbit net is to be clipped to at least three of the pig net wires using galvanised or zinc clips at least every 90cm along the fence.

The bottom 15cm of the rabbit net is to be turned out, i.e. away from the rabbit proof enclosure, and buried to prevent rabbits burrowing under the netting. Additional netting should be used in hollows to ensure that 15cm is buried and that the top height of the rabbit netting is not reduced.

This guidance is given for general advice only and may not be appropriate to all situations. For more details and site specific advice please contact the Conservation Service on 01629 816270 or email [farming@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:farming@peakdistrict.gov.uk).