

Romsey Town Council Allotments Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 07:30pm on the **22nd January 2025** at the Court Room, Romsey Town Hall, Romsey.

Those present: Mr Mike Nobbs, Mr Chris Davies, Mr John Waterman, Mrs Eleanor Vamplew, Cllr Colin Burgess, Mr Roger House, Mrs Lisa Fallowfield, Mr Elvin Mullinger, Mrs Clementine Kingstone.

Apologies: .

1.1 The Minutes of the last meeting on 27th November last were agreed and confirmed as accurate.

Any further matters arising will be discussed under various headings.

1.2 Correspondence:

1.2.1 The committee have been informed of the passing of Max Buckmaster a tenant of plot 64 who held the plot for over 20 years. Max was also previously a councillor and the allotment representative to the town council and, also a former town mayor. We wish his family our sincere condolences.

1.2.2 CD confirmed that following the winter storms where 2 polytunnels were found in the adjacent farmers field, that only the smaller of the two tunnels has been claimed by the tenants of plot 43. Even though repeated E-mails and WhatsApp messages have been sent to the tenants, no-one has claimed the larger one. It is thought that given their disappearance from the field that the farmer must have disposed of them.

1.2.3 The tenants of plot 60 have informed EM of their intention to vacate their plot by 1st March.

1.2.4 CD confirmed having requested access to the full 'members Area' of the NSALG website and have been informed that Town Hall would look into it.

1.3 Finance:

1.3.1 Although no updated accounts have been received from Town Hall, the current accounts are attached to the rear and reflect minor adjustments indicating current income at £3130, expenditure of £2146 with £7972 held in reserve.

1.3.2 To date all subscriptions have been paid.

1.4 Allotments:

Currently there is no waiting list of people wishing to obtain a plot and neither are there any people on hold awaiting a plot.

1.4.1 At present there are 9 vacant plots, numbers, 21,47,53,66,87,96,98,100 &109.

1.4.2 As mentioned in 1.2.3 above Plot 60 will also be added to the list once the current holders have vacated.

1.4.3 EM to contact Kings Chase to ask if they have potential tenants on their vacancy list which may want to be considered for one of our plots instead.

1.4.4 Plots numbers 16 & 63 are under review following an appeal against termination.

1.4.5 No further 'improvement required' notices have been issued since August 24.

1.4.6 Following the joint meeting with Kings Chase committee regarding an 'Access Portal' a record of the minutes to that meeting is to be lodged at Town Hall and copied to Kings Chase committee.

1.4.7. EM to inform plot 40, who have a greenhouse, to ensure that the glazing is not glass but an unbreakable plastic such as polycarbonate, acrylic or Perspex.

1.5 Distribution Centre:

The shop is open to tenants when a committee member is present on site.

1.6 Councillor's Report:

The report is appended to the rear of these minutes, briefly though:

Car Parks: The committee were informed that the work on the car park repairs is unlikely to commence until March 31st due to delays with both Hampshire County Council (HCC) and Romsey Town Council (RTC).

Defibrillator: A meeting is to be held on site with Mr James Laffeaty, the buildings manager, to locate the unit. Originally the cost of the unit, £5418, was to be met by RTC, however, we are informed that this is to be taken from our 'Earmarked reserves' which raises concern with committee members who consider that there will be insufficient funds left in reserve to meet future known expenditures. The new reserve will now be £2554, i.e. £7972 less £5418.

We are assured by Councillor Burgess that future 'known' expenditures will be met by Town Hall.

1.7 AOB:

1.7.1 The matter of the committee's constitution was discussed. RH told the meeting that he believes he has a paper copy of the original, somewhere. It was considered that we should be able to compile a new one based on current trends.

1.7.2 Regarding the issue of the upcoming 'Newsletter', it was agreed that apart from issuing the letter to all by E-mail, that for those tenants who are under scrutiny through past inspections not having come up to standard, that they should also be presented with a paper copy as well as a reminder of the state of their plot.

1.7.3. CD suggested that since plots 98 and 100 are vacant and unattractive to potential tenants that they be turned into a community wild flower garden thereby attracting a greater range of biodiversity on site.

1.7.4 EV informed the committee that the wife of the holder of plot 112 has recently passed. It was agreed that those carrying out upcoming assessments to take note of this point.

the meeting closed at 09:30pm.

Chris Davies

Committee Secretary

Date ... ***05/03/2025***

Mike Nobbs

Chairman

Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 12th March 2025 , 7:30pm at the mayor's parlour, Romsey Town Hall.