

Romsey Town Council Allotments Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held on the **17th July 2024** at the Court Room, Romsey Town Hall, Romsey.

Those present: Mr Mike Nobbs, Mr Chris Davies, Mr Elvin Mullinger, Mr John Waterman, Mrs Eleanor Vamplew, Cllr Colin Burgess.

Apologies: Mrs Lisa Fallowfield, Mr Roger House, Mrs Clementine Kingstone.

7.1 The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed as read.

Any matters arising will be discussed under various headings.

7.2 Correspondence:

7.2.1 The previous tenant of Plot 7 who is in process of giving up his plot wants us to record that his paving slabs were stolen from the plot prior to his departure. He also enquired if he could be reimbursed for the remaining portion of year. This was flatly refused as it is not possible to recall finance from RTC.

7.2.2 Car park repairs: The buildings and community committee at Romsey Town Council have approved funding for the repairs. HCC have been approached for funding, or possibly a grant, to cover the works. If HCC decline responsibility, RTC will fully fund the costs but not from the RTC Allotment Surplus Account.

CB/ RTC would prefer that this should be underway by 30th September, but if not achieved by this date, then RTC may fund it.

7.2.3 Boreholes: CD confirmed he had approached and had received confirmation to proceed with boring a test hole on site by The Environment Agency (EA) and had informed the British Geological Society (BGS) that the work is due to commence in September. RTC will be approaching Broadlands, our landlords, with the same request.

7.3 Finance: The accounts are appended to the rear of the minutes indicating a surplus of £1802.20 with a reserve of £6170.00.

7.4 Allotments:

7.4.1 Currently there is a waiting list of 11, with 3 on hold till next season

7.4.2 Plots 6, 7, 21, 87 & 114 have all resigned. The majority of these plots have been re-let to new tenants from the waiting list.

7.4.3 The re-letting of plot 7 to an existing plot holder whilst there is a very long waiting list was discussed and it was agreed that this should not have occurred.

EM offered his notice of resignation for this deed which was refused by other committee members who all agreed that his actions are otherwise excellent.

EM then continued to table a list of the 'Allotment plot lettings update' outlining the current status of plots.

7.4.4 Plots 16 and 91 to be issued with termination notices, which under the rules they have a right to appeal.

7.4.5 An 'out of Season' fire has recently been observed both on plot 7, new tenant, and plot 16 which is now under appeal process.

Plot 7 have been informed of current rules which bans fires between April and September.

Plot 16 is currently not being worked to an acceptable standard. And we've been informed that the holder has health issues to contend with it has therefore been proposed that a meeting take place between the chairman and plot 16's representative to discuss the future of the plot.

It was also suggested they may wish to relieve themselves of half the plot which could then be re-let to others.

7.4.6 Warning notices were sent out to plots 91,100,116 and 118, on the 30th June.

7.4.7 CD confirmed he has approached and agreement was been made with plot 56 about the area between them and plot 57 which will be returned to a wide path, possibly for further use later on.

7.4.5 The new tenants to Plot 114 and plot 118 has requested permission to reduce their trees, it was agreed we would take a look at it next week; however, it is not advisable to do any work to trees until October.

7.5 Distribution Centre:

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

7.6 Plot Assessments: A plot assessment took place on 4th July where quite a number of plots were observed to be in a pretty poor condition with numerous plots unworked and with little or no crops. A copy of the assessment can be found on the notice board and some are mentioned above in 7.4

7.7 Councillor's Report: CB confirmed that the previously discussed defibrillator, when obtained, will be battery operated.

Following issues raised by the committee at Kings Chase it is suggested that prior to any new lets proceeding that all future plot lets are signed and countersigned by committee members to ensure that double letting cannot occur.

7.8 AOB:

7.8.1 Since we are aware that landlords' fees are due to be increased it was agreed to defer this discussion to next month, along with a discussion on deer incursions, when we will have a full compliment of committee members.

7.8.2 CD has observed intruders upon site. It was suggested that in future we take photographs, if possible, of unknown persons on site as a record should the Police be involved.

7.8.3 Excess produce; Contact has been made with a representative for Romsey community pantry & Romsey Foodbank which will be grateful to receive any excess produce that we have and redistribute it accordingly.

7.8.4 From last meeting, CD was requested to acquire a new quote for the rules board and then forward to Town hall for payment. Further, to check whether Town hall is in agreement to the purchase of a plaque for Mark Edgerly.

7.8.5 JW mentioned that there were 2 sets of differing rules present on Romsey Town Councils website. CD to Contact Town hall regarding this matter.

the meeting closed at 09:30pm.

Chris Davies

Committee Secretary

Mike Nobbs

Chairman

Date ... ***10/07/24***

Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 28th August 2024, 7:30pm at the mayor's parlour, Romsey Town Hall at 7:30pm.

ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT

Statement of Income and Expenditure

05.04.2023 to 31.03.2024

Income	£	Expenditure	£	Budget £
Rents	3480.00	Broadland's Rent	1100.00	1100
Distribution Centre	74.98	Southern Water	564.00	750
Trough	90.00	NSALG	55.00	55
Wheelbarrow	10.00	Card Reader Charges		0
		Dist Centre Stock	33.00	180
		Stationery/Post/Misc		0
		Maintnence/Equip	6.78	150
		Hedge Cutting		220
		Rat Poison/Pest Control		250
		Skip Hire		
		Sundries	94.00	
Totals	<u>3654.98</u>		<u>1852.78</u>	<u>2705</u>
Income less Expenditure	1802.20			
Earmarked Reserve	6170			

NOTES:

There are no outstanding loans for repayment.