

## ETWALL PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting of the Youth Recreation and Allotments Committee held on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2012 in the Frank Wickham Hall

<b>Present:</b>	Cllr R Warburton	)	
	Cllr K Cresswell	)	Committee Members
	Cllr S Sandhu	)	
	Cllr J Fox	)	
	Cllr D Muller	)	
	Cllr J Patten	)	
	Cllr B Payton	)	
	Cllr N Ireland	)	Non-Committee Members
	Cllr I Bennett	)	
	Mr I Mellor	)	
	Mrs J Dainty	)	Allotment Association
	Mr G Sims	)	

378 **Apologies for Absence – None**

379 **Declaration of Interest** – All Members of Etwall Parish Council attending this meeting, being automatically Trustees of the Frank Wickham Hall Charity, declared their interest.

380 **Minutes of meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2012** – These had already been approved and signed at a full council meeting.

#### 381 **Public Speaking**

- (a) Water Charges – It was confirmed that in 2009 an increase of £13.50 per half plot and £21.00 per full plot was made to cover the cost of water at the allotments. Mr Sims asked for copies of previous two years' water invoices. The Clerk agreed to check whether charges were being made at a residential or agricultural rate. The next meeting of the Allotment Association would be held in March 2013 and they would discuss taking over responsibility for water charges at that meeting.
- (b) Purchase of Equipment – Mr Mellor asked if a hedge trimmer could be purchased from the allotment maintenance budget. As a new hedge trimmer had recently been purchased for the Groundsmen it was felt that the Allotment Association could borrow this subject to training and a check that this would be covered under the Parish Council's insurance. A request was then made for a strimmer to enable neglected plots to be cut down before re-letting.
- (c) Changes to Allotment Agreement – A discussion took place on whether allotments should be allocated to people who lived out of the village.
- (d) Ash Tree – Mr Mellor mentioned that the Ash tree at the allotments seemed to be suffering from die back as did two other trees in a neighbouring garden. The Clerk to report this to SDDC for further investigation.
- (e) Excess Produce – Cllr Patten asked if allotment holders had excess produce as she felt that this would be popular if a place could be found in the village where it could be sold.

#### 382 **Allotments (including review of Allotment Agreement)**

The Allotment Agreement was reviewed and the following changes made:-

- (a) Instead of quoting the cost of renting the plot the wording was to be changed to "current yearly rental".
- (b) Add to item (b) that if tenants did not keep their allotment to the satisfaction of the Parish Council/Allotment Association action could be taken.

(c) Although the policy had been in force for some time it was decided that a clause be added which did not allow allotments to be let to people who lived outside Etwall. Any tenant who currently had permission but no longer lived in the village would be allowed to remain. The Clerk to make checks on the Electoral Register in future to ensure new tenants lived in the village.

(d) Item (g) be extended to include large storage constructions.

The new Allotment Agreement to be re-issued to allotment holders.

It was suggested that there should be a formal agreement recognising the Allotment Association and the Clerk to ask SDDC if they had such a document which could be used as a basis.

383 **Finance**

(a) Quotation for maintenance equipment at allotments – IT WAS DECIDED to obtain prices for a strimmer and the Parish Council's insurance to be checked to see whether it would be covered for use by the Allotment Association and whether it could be stored by Mr Mellor.

(b) Budget 2012/13 – No individual items were suggested for inclusion on the budget. Cllr Patten was waiting on a definitive answer concerning hanging baskets from concrete lamp posts.

384 **Planting of Bulbs on Village Green**

John Port School had agreed that their students would plant the bulbs. This was to be done as soon as possible.

385 **Request from Scouts to use Sandypits Lane Changing Rooms** – A meeting was held with representatives of the Scouts at the changing rooms and an annual rental of £100 was proposed. They asked if the door could be widened and some of the internal walls taken down. The walls could not be taken down (other than the privacy wall) as they were all supporting walls. The Scouts to be informed of this.

386 **Dog Fouling on King George V Playing Field** – A complaint had been received about dog fouling on the playing field. Two dogs had been identified as coming from Portland Street and Kiln Croft so the Neighbourhood Warden had offered to post dog fouling notices through the doors in these areas. A notice was also to be put in the Express.

387 **Date of Next Meeting** – To be decided.

Signed: .....

Date: .....