

## Freckleton Parish Council

### Minutes of the Open Spaces Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013

**Present:** Councillor St J Greenhough, (Chair)

Councillors, K McKay, T Fiddler, P Walton, Mrs. L Willis Mrs. M Whitehead and Mrs. K Pye

**1) Apologies**

None

**2) Public participation**

None

**3) To record Declaration of interest from members in any item to be discussed.**

All members, as Trustees, declared an interest in the Croft Butt lane allotments.

Karen Pye, as a tenant, declared an interest in the Croft Butt lane allotments.

**4) To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013.**

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013, previously circulated, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

**5) To consider the requests from the Croft Butts lane Allotment Holders Association and suggestions made to them, regarding amendments to the lease arrangements.**

The following items were discussed with the representatives from the Croft Butts lane allotment holders association:-

**a) A more formal procedure for the termination of tenancies within a shorter timescale.**

It was confirmed that no amendments were needed to the Tenancy agreement.

It was suggested that the once it was noticed that a tenant was in breach of the agreement, a representative from the Association would contact that person to try to identify the reason for not working the plot and see if the members of the Association could help to overcome any temporary problems. If this did not work, the Association would contact the Council and three formal letters would be issued:-

The first, to notify the tenant that he/she was in breach of the agreement and steps should be taken to start working the plot.

If no response to this letter, a second would be issued informing the tenant that the agreement would be terminated within a given period if the plot is not worked.

The third, informing the tenant that the agreement has been terminated because he/she was in breach of the agreement.

The representatives of the Association agreed to work out a timescale for the issue of the letters and inform the Clerk.

It was confirmed that the Council were looking for additional allotment land and asked all present to contact the Clerk if anyone is made aware of land becoming available.

**b) To review the agreed policy for letting half plots.**

It was pointed out that there were 30+ people still on the waiting list and half plots were a method of reducing the number on this list. However, it was noted that the increase in the number of people using the allotment does cause a parking problem. In addition, some tenants with a half plot were keen to take over a full plot.

It was confirmed that no further plots would be split into half plots.

**c) Enforcement on the rules relating to eligibility, due to not living in the village and multiple occupancy.**

The Association stated that they were in agreement with these rules but would not want them to be applied retrospectively.

It was agreed that the rules would only be applied to new tenants.

**d) The Association be allowed access to the waiting list.**

The Clerk stated that, under the Data Protection Act, it was not possible to release this information without the consent of the people on the list.

It was agreed that the Clerk would seek legal advice to see if there was away round this problem.

**e) The payment of a standing charge for the water supply.**

The Clerk confirmed that he had checked with United Utilities and the standing charge has to be paid, even for registered Charities.

**6) To consider the recommendations from the Freckleton in Bloom committee**

**a) Missing road signs.**

It was confirmed that the representatives from the Freckleton in Bloom committee would provide a list of the signs that need repairing or replacing.

**b) Rawstorne centre tubs**

It was report that the tubs have now been removed.

**c) Tubs on the Road side opposite Lorenzo's**

It was report that the tubs have now been removed.

**7) Request from Bowling club to install a small gate on the southern side of the perimeter fence.**

The Clerk reported that he had received a late request from the Bowling club to install a small gate so that cyclist could enter the bowling green area without having to push the bike all the way around the green. The Bowling club had confirmed that they would pay for the installation of the gate.

It was resolved to allow the Bowling club to install the gate.

The Clerk reported that, in future, he would issue a report of the progress made on items previously discussed.

a) Letting of the two vacant plots on the Bush lane allotments - He confirmed that one plot has been allocated and the other will be let in the near future.

b) Plants for Balderstone road Open Spaces area. – The purchase of these plants had been delayed until the conditions were suitable for them to be planted.

c) Plants for the Open Spaces area on the Tom croft car park – A request has been received, from the Contractors, for some new shrubs for the re-vamped Open spaces area on the car park. Again, these will be purchased when the planting conditions are right.

**There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting.**

**Signed.....St J Greenhough, Chairman.....**

**Date.....15/07/13.....**