



Harthill with Woodall

Allotment and Gardens Committee Meeting 4th February 2025



Present: Councillors: **Mrs J Pattison (Chairman)**, **Mrs M Havard (Vice Chair)**, **Mrs B Gunby**, and the Clerk, Caroline Havenhand. Allotment Representatives: Mrs M Baker (Doctor Lane), and In Bloom Representatives: Mrs C Evans and Mrs C Leigh. No parishioners were in attendance.

Reference	Item	Action
A25/1	To receive and approve reasons for absence.	
	Mrs A Fretwell (Thorpe Road), Mr I Lloyd, Mrs J Coatsworth and Councillor C Hamer provided reasons for absence. It was resolved that the reasons provided were accepted.	
A25/2	To receive declarations of interest in respect of business on the agenda.	
	Mrs M Baker declared an interest in matters related to allotment rents.	
A25/3	To authorise the chairman to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2024 as a true and correct record.	
	It was resolved that the minutes be confirmed as a true and correct record and the Chairman accordingly signed the file copy.	
A25/4	To identify any agenda items which may be considered following the exclusion of press and public, due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed.	
	It was resolved that no items should exclude press and public.	
A25/5	To discuss any matters arising (For information only)	
	There were no matters that were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.	
	<u>Allotment Matters</u>	
A25/6	To discuss any allotment issues, including new allocations.	
	<p>The clerk reported on issues found when measuring plots over the last couple of weeks. It was resolved that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A quote be obtained to remove the small conservatory on a vacant plot on Firvale, before it is re-let. • When the rent letters are issued the following matters are to be included – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The allotment skips are for garden waste only. Building material brought onto site such as wood and any plastic should be taken to a local recycling centre by the tenant. ○ That tenants carry out a general tidying of their plots in spring and in particular remove plastic unless it has a specific purpose that they should advised to the Parish Council. • There are still a few outstanding rents and chasers have been sent, the clerk will continue to follow up. • There are still a few outstanding tenancy agreements, and the clerk will chase these once again. 	Clerk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A quotation be obtained to cut the allotment hedge at Firvale. • The tenant with large trailer on their plot at Firvale be asked to remove it as it not in keeping with an allotment site. • The tenant who has laid plastic and metal bars on one of the paths, to hold the plastic down, is to be asked to remove these as they are a trip hazard. 																						
A25/7	To set a date for allotment rent day in April.																						
	It was resolved that rent day be set for 5 th April 10 am – 12 noon.	Clerk																					
A25/8	To agree allotment rent for 2026/2027.																						
	<p>It was resolved that the annual rent for 2025/2026 plots be set as follows within the £15 to £30 price range notified last year. There are no £15 plots due to this amount not covering the cost of skips and water.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Band Small (Under 135 square meters)</td> <td>£20.00</td> <td>£17.50 if no water DL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band Medium (136 square meters to 299)</td> <td>£25.00</td> <td>£22.50 if no water DL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band Large (300 square meters plus)</td> <td>£30.00</td> <td>£27.50 if no water DL</td> </tr> </table> <p>For 2026/2027 an additional band will be introduced for super plots which are more than twice the size of a the generally accepted standard for a full-sized plot, which is 250 square meters. So over 500 square meters.</p> <table> <tr> <td>Band Small (Under 135 square meters)</td> <td>£25.00</td> <td>£20.00 if no water DL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band Medium (136 square meters to 299)</td> <td>£30.00</td> <td>£25.00 if no water DL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band Large (300 square meters plus)</td> <td>£40.00</td> <td>£35.00 if no water DL</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Band X Large (500 square meters plus)</td> <td>£50.00</td> <td>£45.00 if no water DL</td> </tr> </table> <p>This means that an extra-large plot is still less that £1 per week to rent. The clerk will notify the increases within the notice regarding rent day.</p>	Band Small (Under 135 square meters)	£20.00	£17.50 if no water DL	Band Medium (136 square meters to 299)	£25.00	£22.50 if no water DL	Band Large (300 square meters plus)	£30.00	£27.50 if no water DL	Band Small (Under 135 square meters)	£25.00	£20.00 if no water DL	Band Medium (136 square meters to 299)	£30.00	£25.00 if no water DL	Band Large (300 square meters plus)	£40.00	£35.00 if no water DL	Band X Large (500 square meters plus)	£50.00	£45.00 if no water DL	Clerk
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A25/9	To agree on garage rent for 2026/2027 so it can be notified with the rent letters for this year.																						
	It was resolved that the rent for 2026/2027 will be £35. This is still a significant reduction on the £75 pa charged by RMBC.	Clerk																					
A25/10	To consider finance matters relating to the allotments.																						
	There were no finance matters relating to allotments. The clerk presented the up to date spend against budget. The Winter planting invoice has now been paid, as well as the Hanging Baskets.																						
	<u>Harthill With Woodall in Bloom Matters</u>																						
A25/11	To discuss any outstanding matters relating to areas maintained including summer hanging baskets. To agree any action.																						
	<p>It was resolved to order hanging baskets once again from the same supplier to be placed in the same locations. There was a small increase last year and so the prices are not increasing this year. Clerk to issue contract. It was further agreed to look into whether the proposed bench for Woodall Lane could be situated nearer to the bus stop.</p> <p>The clerk advised that a local volunteer is in the process of repairing and repainting the precinct wall baskets. The committee asked the clerk to pass on their thanks.</p>	Clerk																					
A25/12	To discuss any action following the In Bloom visit.																						
	The committee was delighted to receive the strong feedback from the judging. It was resolved that no further action is required at this time.																						

A25/13	To provide any update on volunteers.	
	The bed at the top of the village requires a new volunteer. It was resolved to ask on Facebook if there is any interest from parishioners living up at the top of the village.	Clerk
A25/14	To consider finance matters relating to the Harthill in Bloom. To agree to any action.	
	It was resolved to allocate the cost of the hanging baskets in the budget.	Clerk
A25/15	To arrange the Date and Time of Next Meeting (1st April 2025)	
	It was resolved that the next allotment committee meeting will be held on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.	
	The meeting closed at 7.50pm	

Chairman

Date 1st April 2025

Finance

Budget	YIB	£	2,000.00	
	Allotments	£	1,100.00	
	Meadow	£	100.00	
	Hanging Baskets	£	1,900.00	
Total		£	5,100.00	
Spend to Date	YiB	£	1,712.75	2000
	Allotments	£	1,279.63	1100
	Meadow	£	-	100
	Hanging Baskets	£	1,620.00	1900
Total		£	4,612.38	
	Allocated Budget			
		£	-	
		£	-	
		£	-	
Balance		£	487.62	