



FLAMBOROUGH PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 30th SEPTEMBER 2014, 7.30 PM, WI HALL, FLAMBOROUGH

Present: Councillors I Woodhouse (in the Chair), Mrs L Bennett, P Couzens, J Crossland, S Emmerson, A Grainger, Mrs M Sexton, M Smales
Eight members of the public

Clerk, Lynne Dennis, recorded the minutes

41/14 To receive apologies for absence:

Apologies of absence were received from Councillors D Morton, V Leppington, R Sellick, Mrs C Taylor, F Villani and Ward Councillors R. Harrap, C Matthews and J Wilkinson.

42/14 Code of Conduct:

(a) To record Declarations of Pecuniary/non-Pecuniary Interests by any member of the Council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared:

None.

(b) To note dispensations given to any member of the Council in respect of agenda items below:

None.

43/14 Public Participation Session (15 minutes):

None.

44/14 To approve plans to improve management of the allotments at the Bempton Lane and Charlie's Gardens sites:

- **Amendments to Tenancy Agreement/Advice Note for Tenants**
- **Non-Cultivation**
- **Pest Control**
- **Permissions**
- **Timescales of implementation**

Councillor Woodhouse stated the aim of the meeting was address issues regarding the management of the allotments site and that the Council was committed to ensuring that all plots are kept tidy including those currently lying vacant.

Amendments to Tenancy Agreement/Advice Note for Tenants

Councillors were provided with a copy of the current tenancy agreement and advice note, together with proposals for amendments in advance of the meeting. The tenancy agreement was discussed with Alan Barker (ERNLLCA) and it was advised that it contained all relevant information and did not need to be amended at this time. Suggested changes to the Advice Note were proposed:

- Point 3 - change of wording to “no livestock or poultry of any kind shall be kept upon the Allotment Garden other than reasonable numbers of hens or rabbits for the tenant’s own domestic consumption. No cockerels should be kept on site. Permission should be sought for any sheds/pens which must be removed by the tenant upon the termination of the tenancy.”
- Point 4 - additional information on tenant’s responsibility to manage vermin through pest control measure.
- Point 8 - to include information on the format the series of site management letters will take.

A new additional advice note was proposed to be issued with specific guidance relating to the keeping of poultry.

RESOLVED: *(All in favour)* to amend the combined area of plot given to hen house and run to not exceed 50% from 25%. Amended advice note/additional advice note to be accepted and issued to tenants.

Non-cultivation

Council to maintain vacant plots more rigorously and tenants non-cultivation to be policed better to ensure full plot is cultivated as per the tenancy agreement.

Pest Control

Rats have increasingly become an issue with several reports from plot holders being received by the Council and this problem needs to be tackled before there is an explosion in the rat population. Advice was sought from ERYC Pest Control who recommended that bait stations be used in the first instance and the situation monitored. Clerk to obtain prices for pest control options.

The meeting was closed to allow public participation

- It was suggested that the most effective way to deter rats would be to ensure they couldn’t access feed intended for hens. Options such as sealed feed containers and only feeding hens twice a day with the appropriate amount of feed were discussed. To prevent rats from accessing areas to nest it was suggested that all poultry sheds should be raised off the ground the area kept clear.
- Tenant requested advice on the best way to manage the disposal of dead rats from his plot.
- It was requested that the Council write to all plot holders to explain the problems and update them on the changes and recommendations to be introduced.
- Tenants suggested that the rat problem could be tackled by plot holders as an interim measure.

The meeting reopened

Permissions

It was re-iterated that male birds are not permitted and that tenants would be reminded as such.

The meeting was closed to allow public participation

- Tenant raised the issue of bonfires and the clause which states tenants will receive immediate notice to quit if found to be burning. He stated that DEFRA advised that certain garden waste should be burnt to ensure disease was discouraged. PC to look into the permission regarding bonfires.

- The meeting reopened

Councillor Woodhouse thanked all for their contribution to the meeting.

**Signed as a true and correct record
Chairman, Councillor I. Woodhouse**

I Woodhouse

Date 3rd November 2014