## WEARSIDE-SMALLHOLDERS

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 31st January 2023

ATTENDED BY: Mr I. Hornsey; Mr J. Searle; G. Arnott; P. Larcombe;

P. Hutchinson; J. Palmer

APOLOGIES: Mr J. Smurthwaite; Ms. G Clifford.

- 1. Minutes of previous meeting approved, any matters below. Minutes to be published.
- 2. Correspondence None.
- 3. Finances Monies as in the bank.
- 4. Business
- 4.1 AGM minutes Approved and can be posted on site and web. (Action: G. Arnott)
- 4.2 **New Committee.** Welcomed and oversight allocated.

Taps/Water Supply, P. Larcombe; Plot Numbering, P. Hutchinson; Water meterage, J. Smurthwaite; Pictures for unworked gardens, J. Surthwaite/G. Clifford; Unworked garden decisions Secretary/Committee; Web site Facebook Noticeboards Minutes Letters – G. Arnott.

Role of Treasurer outlined/confirmed.

- 4.3 Rent. Collection continuing to end of February as per agreement, any outstanding rent payees will be contacted by phone etc.. (Action: I. Hornsey).
  New members asked for clarification about evictions and process with the Council (the ultimate issuer of notices)- outlined.
- 4.4 Gates. Slippage has been repaired and padlocks addressed.
- 4.5 **Noticeboards**. Main board has been moved and is now operational, although vandalism continues and a further lock needs to be applied. Small board to be moved to gates for AGM/rent notices, further small board at mid-site will be used for contact info and AGM/Rent notices only.

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Old notice boards to be de-commissioned – all notices apart from AGM/Rent notices will appear in official noticeboards. No other notices allowed on site without Committee approval and process.

Agreed, new aluminium notices for various purposes to be designed and purchased; costs outlined and approved. Once produced, approval to erect immediately. (Action: G. Arnott)

- 4.6 Entrances. Agreed ask Council for two decorative tubs to be placed at entrance to dissuade parking on the grass/pavement at the front of the site, and decorate the entrance to the allotments. These will need to be maintained. (Action: I. Hornsey)
- 4.7 **Verges.** New Committee confirmed that spraying and cutting should be conducted in the Spring, as a one-off measure. Cost and contractor agreed. Plot holders will then be expected to maintain verges as per contract. Before this happens a check will be made with the Council about their responsibility. **(Action: I. Hornsey)**
- 4.8 **Limited waste collection solutions.** The Committee agreed to the Secretary's request that this should wait to be discussed and addressed at the next AGM due to cost and invested interest implications.
- 4.9 Water Harvesting. Verbal suggestion to Committee that water barrels should be supplied to all. This should be put in writing but the Committee discussed in the first instance. As many gardens have these supplies, such provision would not benefit everyone from common funds. But water harvesting is important, and the Committee will investigate environmental initiatives and potential funds as a way of supplying facilities to those who still need them. We will also look at the same sort of support for composting. (Action: G. Arnott)
- 4.10 **Road speed and control**. There have been verbal complaints about the speed of some vehicles on site. New notices being produced will include specific speed notices. Speed bump installation will be discussed at the AGM due to cost implications.
- 4.11 **Banking**. Details can now be updated with Barclays. Committee considering moving banking arrangements to another bank.

Previous statements have not yet been forwarded from recipient.

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4.12 **Wasps**. Some reports of wasp nests. These should be dealt with by plotholders.

The Council should be contacted – they are likely to deal with nests inside sheds etc. but not externally.

4.13 **Dogs.** Must be kept on a lead on site, when anywhere other than a person's own garden. Notices will be produced, especially as local residents are walking dogs on site.

Date of Next Meeting: Feb 12<sup>th</sup> 2023