

PLOTHOLDER MEETINGS - ACTIONS SINCE 2021 & PROGRESS/COMMENTS

2021

1. Confirmed there will be improved car parking as a result of the GMF
2. Electric point for electric charging for plot holders use
3. HWPC overgrown grass at Ventnor and green waste collections
4. Rose Walk fence line rubbish - reconfirm its plot holders responsibility
5. Check all plot numbers are still visible
6. Additional water trough at Goodearl

ACTION / PROGRESS

Noted
Noted
Noted & added to works list
Outstanding / comms
Outstanding
Outstanding

2022

Carried forward 2021

1. Rose Walk fence line rubbish - reconfirm its plot holders responsibility
2. Check all plot numbers are still visible
3. Additional water trough at Goodearl
4. Reconsider the categories for the allotment competition and making entry non-mandatory
5. Regular grass cutting at Ventnor
6. Ventnor Close rail by the steps to be secured
7. More water troughs be available at Rose Walk and Goodearl sites

Outstanding / comms
Outstanding
Outstanding
Completed
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding

2023

Carried forward 2021 & 2022

1. Rose Walk fence line rubbish - reconfirm its plot holders' responsibility
2. Check all plot numbers are still visible
3. Additional water trough at Goodearl
4. Regular grass cutting at Ventnor
5. Ventnor Close rail by the steps to be secured
6. More water troughs be available at Rose Walk and Goodearl sites
7. Unkempt grounds maintenance across all sites – schedule needed
8. Noticeboards repositioned, check for damages, do not attach notices to the gates
9. Ventnor Close community plot overgrown
10. Ventnor Close plot 24 & 10 needs clearing
11. Skips for allotment sites
12. Polytunnels now permitted so long as they are anchored down, reconfirm in comms
13. Containers – reconfirm with plotholders if they want them to be left
14. Actions from this meeting & schedule of future meetings to be advertised at all sites

Outstanding / comms
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Outstanding
Completed
Outstanding
Completed / comms
Outstanding / comms
Outstanding / comms

Minutes of the plot holders meeting held on Monday 16th October 2023 at 7.00pm at the Council Offices

In attendance: Councillor R Hailstone, V Manro, R Worman, P Park and A Jimmy.

Officers in attendance: Georgina Morgan-Denn, Chief Officer/Clerk & RFO, Darry New, Administration Assistant and Julie Coe, Meetings Administrator

Plot holders: 31 were present.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed apologies had been received from Councillors S Heyes and E Baker Walker.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2022 were agreed as a true record.

Proposed: Mr A White

Seconded: Mr T Oak

Vote: Agreed with no abstentions.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2022 were agreed as a true record.

3. Income & Expenditure for 2022/2023

The meeting noted the income & expenditure report for 2022/2023 and no questions were raised.

4. Leisure Garden Competition Awards

The Chair of the Parks & Open Spaces Committee presented the Leisure Garden Competition Awards for 2023. Warm congratulations were extended by all. Those winners who were in attendance received their trophies and prizes.

Rose Walk	Goodearl	Ventnor Close	Overall Best Beginner
1 st Mr Saunders	1 st Mr Neal	1 st Mr Coomber	Mr Lee Goodearl
2 nd Mr Titcombe	2 nd Mr Ellis	2 nd Mrs Hunter	
3 rd Mr Gurung	3 rd Mr Haynes	3 rd Mr Way	

5. Grounds Maintenance Facility (GMF) Plans at Goodearl

Plot holders heard that the outline planning was complete and HWPC await the final sign off on the last planning application from Swindon Borough Council (SBC). A contractor has been appointed however there is still some evaluation being done on costs as some materials have gone down in price for example steel. A definite start date on the works could not be confirmed but Plot Holders were assured that the Council is fully committed to the project which will benefit both the community and the Parks & Open Spaces serviced delivery.

6. Surplus Allotment Produce Project at Rose Walk

Week collection of surplus produce at Rose Walk is running very successfully with 'Food Cycle' collecting each Thursday to utilise and create community meals each week. Surplus produce from Goodearl can be dropped off at Rose Walk due to its close proximity. It was confirmed that Ventnor already has a scheme running.

7. Questions & Ideas from Plot Holders

Will any more water troughs be provided at Goodearl?

Whilst the Council does support the recycling of rainwater it cannot be confirmed at this stage if any further water troughs will be provided, however it will be investigated if a reconditioned trough can be provided. This will be discussed with Head of Parks and Open Spaces upon return of his holiday.

We have regular inspections by staff of HWPC which we understand but why are the grounds not maintained and left unsightly?

The Council accepts that it has not met the standard of maintenance required at all three sites this year. It will take steps to improve the maintenance and ensure the site maintenance is on a regular schedule in the future.

Can the noticeboards be repositioned and used rather than attaching notices to gates?

Yes, we will instruct team to use boards and NOT gates, we will check the notice boards are fully functioning and lockable.

Will the Council Parks & Open Spaces vehicles still use the parking spaces at Goodearl, once the GMF is completed?

No, on completion of the GMF all Council vans and machinery will have their own parking within the compound of the facility.

Why has the Ventnor Close community plot been left overgrown and unkempt? Is there any reason why it has not been strimmed or maintained? There is also rubbish that needs clearing on plot numbers 24 and 10.

The Council apologises and acknowledge that this has been overlooked and will endeavour to add to the Winter Programme and clear the rubbish.

Have the Council considered having skips on allotment sites as this would prove useful?

This is an idea for consideration so will add this to the next POST meeting agenda.

Are polytunnels allowed on Rose Walk

Yes, as long as they are anchored down.

Why are containers being left on Allotments?

They will be used by the construction company then disposed of.

Please can Plot Holders be given dates for actions from this meeting?

Yes, a schedule and agendas will be posted on the notice boards.

Statement from Cllr R Worman

I have an allotment plot in Stratton St Margaret and would like the meeting to know that your plots are in excellent order comparison. It should be congratulated to all the plot holders on all three sites for their continued care work on their individual plots.

Meeting ended at 7:40pm