



Tockwith with Wilstrop Parish Council

North Yorkshire

www.tockwith.gov.uk

Clerk email: parish.clerk@tockwith.gov.uk

Minutes of the Allotments, POS and Playgrounds Committee meeting held at 6pm on Tuesday 18 July 2023 at Tockwith Village Hall, 1 Marston Road, Tockwith, YO26 7PR.

Present: Cllr Sarah Pearce, Cllr Ted Tomes, Cllr Arnold Warneken, Cllr Kriston Wright

Apologies: Cllr Stuart McHenery, Cllr Graeme McBride

Guests: None.

In attendance: Deborah Marshall, Clerk to the Parish Council.

No members of the public were in attendance.

MINUTES

8.	<u>Apologies</u>
I	To note any apologies received Apologies had been received from Cllrs McBride and McHenery RESOLVED: That apologies from Councillors McBride and McHenery be noted.
li	To approve any reasons for absence submitted for consideration RESOLVED: That the reasons for absence submitted by Cllrs McBride and McHenery be approved.
9.	<u>To Note any Declarations of Interest:</u>
I	To note declarations of interests not already declared under members Code of Conduct or members register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in the business to be transacted at this meeting None.
li	To approve any dispensation requests received None.
10.	<u>Public Open Forum</u> There were no members of the public in attendance.
11.	<u>Allotments</u>
I	To consider amendments to the allotment agreement The following amendments were proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- That manure be permitted subject to it being well distributed across the plot and stored for no longer than three months.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In line with the Government's 2024 peat ban sale to amateur gardeners, tenants should be encouraged to use peat-free alternatives with immediate effect - Only organic and natural pesticides and herbicides should be used if at all possible. If there is no alternative but to use chemical-based products, tenants should do this only within their own plot and leave a space of 50cm to the boundary of any neighbouring plot. Pesticide and herbicide sprays should only be used on days of non-windy weather to prevent chemical spread. - Ponds will only be permitted with prior permission from the Parish Council. Exact dimensions and purpose of the pond should be given. If permission is granted, the tenant must agree to remove and fill any pond before vacating their plot at the end of their tenancy. - The allotment should be used for horticultural purposes only and not as a garden. Monoculture of crops is to be discouraged and good crop rotation is recommended to avoid degradation of soil quality.
	Resolved: That the above amendments be accepted and the allotment agreement revised.
ii	To consider a draft allotments inspection checklist
	A checklist had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Tomes suggested that evidence of good crop rotation be added to the checklist. Councillors considered the frequency at which the allotments should be inspected. A recommendation of once every calendar month was proposed.
	Resolved: That crop rotation be added to the checklist and the allotments be inspected monthly.
iii	To consider a reminder letter to the owners of the trees and hedges on the northern Bridlepath boundary for autumn tree trimming
	It was proposed that a reminder letter to trim the boundary trees be sent to the landowners on the northern and western boundary of the Bridlepath allotments. Cllr Pearce said she had contact details that she would pass to the Clerk.
	Resolved: That a reminder letter be sent to the two landowners on the northern and western boundary of the Bridlepath allotments.
12.	<u>Public Open Spaces</u>
i	To consider a request to NYC for relaxed grass cutting in May and June on the Green at PRD
	Councillors considered the recent report of nesting partridges when the grass had been permitted to grow long during the April and May months. The birds had then fled when the grass was cut in June. It was proposed that a cut in March and September might be more appropriate with only path and pavement edges cut during the summer months with the addition of some weaving paths through the long grass to encourage wildlife. It was proposed NYC be contacted to ask if this would be possible.
	Resolved: That NYC be requested to make the above changes to their maintenance schedule.
13.	<u>Playgrounds</u>
i	To consider the playground matting at Marston Road playground
	It had been reported that small weeds had started to grow through rubber matting at the centre of the spinning web where there is no footfall. It was recommended that salt/vinegar or another natural herbicide be applied.
	Resolved: That the Clerk ask the Yorkshire Green Team to apply natural herbicide.
li	To consider any updates from the playground inspections
	There were no additional issues to report.
14.	<u>To confirm a date for the next meeting</u>
	Resolved: That the next meeting be held at 6pm on Monday 23 rd October at 6pm.

With no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 18:35

Signed _____ Date _____