

Drinkstone Parish Council

Allotments

Report to the Ordinary Meeting Dated Monday 1st August 2022

Agenda Item; Councillor Portfolios

During the last month I have visited both sets of allotments and can report that the general condition is good on both sites.

I have still to order the 100 bare root hawthorn whips approved at a previous meeting and will now wait until the winter to do this.

Currently all allotment plots are filled with one person on the waiting list for Gedding Rd.

As reported at the last meeting, I have been looking into alternative management plans for the allotments as the current process of Charity trustees may now be out of date or needs an over haul at best.

I need to do more work into the charity itself which was set up in 1987 but I cannot find much information as to its purpose or powers relating to that time.

The current trustees are adamant that their role is to protect the rights of the allotment lands and charity, however this is at odds with a document I have found dated 2010 which makes reference to the PC being able to appoint trustees and sack any trustee who disagrees with the PC, which asks more questions than it answers.

Once I have been able to ascertain once and for all the role of the allotment charity, I propose to hold a meeting with all the allotment holders to discuss the situation and alternatives, prior to formalising a proposal and recommendation to the PC.

As reported last month, we have been approached by a villager who wants to rent the land on Rattlesden Rd. The Trustees are happy to let this land on a rolling annual basis as it will continue to provide a revenue which will continue

to subsidise the cost of having an allotment and is in line with the objectives of the charity. Cllrs Holborn and Lambert are currently looking into establishing the location of the boundary of this land and a cost of fencing it off.

Prepared by Cllr Edmondson

18th July 2022