



**Meeting held at Red Scar Lane area of the allotments on**

**Sunday 21 August 2022 at 1pm**

### **Minutes**

**30 Members attend the meeting.**

**1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Tony Mollica, Colin and Sara Goodall, Colin Glaves, Janet Merritt, Anne Smith, Shelia Dungey, Kate Anderson and Lesley Coote.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on the 15 August 2021**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 15 August 2021, which had been circulated with the agenda, were received and approved.

**3. Report by the Chairperson on the year's activities**

**Chairs Report 2022**

I'd like to start by thanking my colleagues on the committee, Sue, Jeremy, Trevor, Diane, Graham, Annette and Steve and all our members for helping our small gardening community. I'd also like to welcome all the new plot holders who have joined us in the last year and I hope we have made you feel welcome

**Inspections**

We have recently completed our plot inspections for the season. There were many impressive scores with a very wide range of produce in evidence and splendid standards of gardening.

We conduct our inspections three or four times over the year using a scoring system based on crop quality, variety, and overall workmanship trying our best to be fair to all. The purpose of all this is not just to select a best plot and most improved plot, but also to maintain overall standards.

Overall, it seems that the state of our allotments just keeps getting better. Of course, there are exceptions, and we do issue warnings. We do this to try and avoid the need for unnecessary evictions. For example, we don't necessarily know that a plot holder is ill or working away for a period. So if you get a friendly warning letter please do respond.

**Winners**

The overall winner for best plot, judged over the season was **Yvonne Beaton** on plot 48. Missing out by the slenderest of margins were Ken Gill, Ruth Webster, Sheila and Graham Basil, Phil Tindall, Richard Lawson, Diane & Dave Haigh,

# The Friends of Newby & Scalby Allotments Group



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Gordon Evans and Jeremy Smith. **Sue and Paul Coleman** take the prize for most improved plot.

We haven't held the "plate of" competitions this year because of the revised date of the BBQ and the rather different climate that prevails.

## Water

It's been a difficult year weather-wise with a late wet spring followed by a summer of late heat and drought.

The water system will be turned off before the first frosts. This would be an ideal time to join with your neighbours who use the same tank give it a good clean ready for next year. You might also want to make a simple wooden cover to prevent rubbish or vermin getting in.

Please remember that water is a valuable resource, and the second biggest component of our rent. Please use it sparingly and remember we are not allowed to use hosepipes from the water tanks. If you spot water leak let a committee know so we can fix it. Graham has done a sterling job this year repairing leaks on tanks and in the pipework.

Personally, I think we can expect our climate to continue to alter so let's do what we can to preserve water, mulch more, use green manure or whatever to reduce the need to water, gather water from shed roofs. Where we do need to water it's best done early in the morning or late on in the day.

## Paths

I'd like to repeat my plea of last year for all of us to review the paths that surround our plot. Paths should be two feet wide, and it would help to ensure access for if they could be as straight as possible. None of us are getting younger and it can be all too easy to slip of a path and turn an ankle or worse.

## Dogs

There have been some complaints of problems with dogs wandering about the site leaving dog mess that has been left for others to dispose of. Please remember that you must keep your dog on a lead and clean up here as you would elsewhere.

## Fame

Coastline Sight and Hearing have taken on plots 55S and 56 for their community and we have been advised that ITV are likely to be doing some filming on their plots on the 7th of September as part of an award nomination programme.

Finally, the committee are always looking for ideas that might help make the plots better for all so please email them in as and when they occur.

## 4. Review and approval of the annual audited accounts



In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman advised that he had nothing further to add to the copy of the accounts which were circulated with the agenda and advised that they had been independently reviewed by John Freeman. **AGREED** that the accounts be received.

**5. The appointment of an Independent Reviewer for the accounts.**

It was **AGREED** that John Freeman be appointed as Independent Reviewer. for the next year

**6. The election/ re-election of Officers and Committee Members (Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer)**

The Chairman advised that the majority existing Officers and Committee Members had indicated that they were willing to serve for another year.

Chair – Mark Richards

Vice Chair – Jeremy Smith

Treasurer – Trevor Teasdale

Secretary – Sue Bedford

Other Members

Steve Barnes

Annette Brayshaw

Diane Haigh

He also reported that Tony Mollica (Plots 55S and 56) had indicated that he was willing to be on the Committee. Bob Johnson (Plot 19) advised the meeting that he was also willing to be elected to the Committee.

**AGREED** that all those mentioned above be elected to the Committee for the forthcoming year.

**7. Motions where at least four weeks' notice has been given.**

The Chairman advised that no motions had been received.

**8. Future Social event**

Arrangements have been made to hold annual Pie, Peas and Seeds event at the Rugby Club on the 13 October 2022 at 7pm in October so please sign up for that when the notice comes out – we saved 50% on seeds this year.

**9. Any other competent business as agreed by the Chairperson.**

There was no other business and the meeting closed at approximately 1:50 pm

**OPEN FORUM**

Ken Gill expressed his thanks to all those plot holders who had helped out keeping his plot tidy during his recent bout of illness.

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A question was raised as to whether we could take over the running of the allotments instead of the Parish Council. Concern was expressed that if this were to happen it would mean more work for committee members and they may not be willing to accept such responsibility.

Discussion took place as to how much income was received and expenditure incurred by the Parish Council in running the allotments. The Chairman advised he would try to ascertain this. He also advised that it was likely that the rent for plots may go up as it is 3 years since there had been an increase in rents. The subject of hedges was raised and the Chairman advised that those with hedges adjoining their plots were responsible for trimming them back. If plot holders had a problem with the height of hedges they should contact the Committee to see if the Parish Council would be willing to write to householders adjoining the plots who had let their hedges grow too high.

**Commented [MR1]:** Brilliant thanks. Have taken off the "and expenditure was incurred that escaped to the end of the minutes