

Boniface Allotments Association  
Committee meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on at 19.30 in the Council Offices

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Present: Mr Alan Bellamy, Ms Sandra Chalton, Mr Bill Parr, Mr Alan Stewart, Ms Maggie Stewart, Ms Penni Tearle.

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1. **Apologies:** None

2. **Minutes of the meeting** on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010. These were accepted and signed.

3. **Matters arising:**

**Miles Haggard memorial:** EWP reported that Mr Haggard's son will take on his allotment at least in the short term. With regard to a possible memorial, it was noted there were no trees on the Exhibition Road site and it would be nice to plant one in memory of Miles on that site. (**Action:** AB to follow this up).

4. **Town Council meetings:**

**February:** No-one attended

**March:** No-one attended

5. **Barnfield site**

a) **Gate:** AS provided further quotes for improving the vehicle access and area around the gate. Three companies had been approached and met with AS on site. To date 2 quotes have been received: £1076 for contouring slope, membrane and scalplings. (ii) £140 +VAT for contouring slope, and a further £500 +VAT for further digging, membrane etc. It was agreed that the relatively small outlay for the contouring, with a view to then grassing the area was the best way forward. (**Action:** AS to present the quotes and recommendation to Town Council).

b) **Hedge:** SC asked for list of allotment holders who need to be contacted and agreed to do this and give some thought to suitable hedge plants. (**Action:** MS to pass contact details to SC who will follow up with tenants).

Of the two projects it was agreed that the gate should have priority over the hedge.

6. **Events and activities for 2010:**

a) **Seed swapping:** It was agreed that sharing seeds was a good idea and links to the Garden club and Climate Action group would be positive and make this more worthwhile. Both these groups were already active in this. (**Action:** MS to contact garden club and SC to talk to Climate Action). Links with the Garden Club in relation to their forthcoming talk on 'Growing Vegetables' was also raised, and it was felt BAA should advertise this but not share in the payment for this as a group. (**Action:** MS to discuss when talking to Garden Club).

- b) **Open day:** This will be on June 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 12. Barnfield allotment holders will be invited to visit the Exhibition Road site. Notices will be placed on noticeboards and also possible on plot marking posts.

## **7. Support for new plot holders**

It was agreed that a formal scheme would be hard to devise or implement, but it was noted how important it was to continue to be helpful and welcoming to newcomers which seemed now to be working well.

## **8. Any other business**

- a) Sandra reported that she had now planted the rosa rugosa to replace the previous tree which had been damaged when the area was being mowed. A Bullace still needs to be planted and this will take place as soon as a good place has been identified.
- b) It was noted that the edge between the playing field and the Barnfield allotment is proving to be a very good area for birds. The importance of maintaining this has implications for cutting the hedge. (**Action:** *PT to confirm with Town Council that the hedge won't be cut until October*).
- c) It was noted that the noticeboard (on the Barnfield site at least) was working well, both in terms of notices posted and use of the area under it for 'plant swapping'.
- d) Plot numbering: There are two issues.
  - There is some confusion about numbering when plots are split, and this needs clarifying and associated paperwork updated.
  - The more recently split plots don't have posts on them with the numbers, and it is unclear what the process is for adding posts when plots are split.

**10 Date of next committee meeting was set for 24th May 2010 (**Action:** *Chairman to book Council Chamber*)**

The meeting closed at 21.00