

20th August 2025

Minutes of a meeting of the Witney Allotments Association North (WAA(N)) Committee held on 18th August 2025 at 6.30pm at Diane's house.

Item	Discussion	Action
1	<p>Present Richard Bourget, Rosie Trinder, Brian Bloomfield, Diane Newsham, Councillor Rachel Crouch (attended for part of meeting)</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of the last meeting The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a full and accurate record of the meeting held on 10th April.</p>	
3	<p>Matters arising There were no matters arising from the last meeting.</p>	
4.	<p>Waiting List There are 227 people currently on the waiting list. The committee discussed with CRC the need for extra allotment sites – although new developments are being built with allotments as part of the planning agreements, many of these plots will go to residents of the new development, meaning that the waiting list will not reduce significantly. CRC agreed to speak to Angus at WTC whose is responsible for identifying possible suitable land. CRC also discussed Community Grants that are available for amounts between £500 - £2000 that could be used to create raised beds in the local area. She has just helped to organise the installation of raised beds at Queen Emma's that are to be used by local residents.</p>	CRC
5	<p>Site Reps Report Hailey Road No vacant plots at the moment but 33A will be available at the end of the growing season. The current plot holder of ** also has plot **. Plot ** has now become available and so the two half plots will now be made into one large plot and ** plot holder will take on the larger Plot *, releasing ** to be let to a new tenant. Plot ** has not been maintained sufficiently and help has been offered to the tenant. This has still not resulted in the plot being maintained to an acceptable level and so the plot is to be relinquished. The tenant of Plot ** would like a bigger plot so, again, the plot will be returned to a large plot and offered as one plot to the current tenant of plot **. Firm emails have been sent to any troublesome plots which has resulted in them being cleared but not yet cultivated. Situation will be monitored. A shed that had attracted complaints about being unsafe from a householder adjacent to the site has been demolished by the site rep and left for disposal.</p> <p>Newlands There are currently no vacant plots. The fencing on the Kingsfield Crescent side has multiple holes and could not</p>	

	<p>be replaced because of sheds needing to be removed. RT is still waiting on 2 sheds and a pen to be moved before the fencing can be done, hopefully from September once the nesting season is over. A blue shed, deemed unsafe by WTC H&S, has been removed. One tenant wants confirmation that the fencing contractors will remove all their waste when completing the job. CRC to pass this to AW at WTC for confirmation. One plot holder who has not kept their plot well recently had decided to relinquish the plot but has since changed their mind. It was agreed to give them a time frame of having the plot cleared and prepared by the end of December. The situation will be monitored by RT.</p> <p>Windrush Place There are currently two plots available. Plot 21 was being split into two half plots but the committee discussed keeping it as one full plot. Plot 23 has now been vacated. RB to contact RT for next names on the list. BJ has stepped down as Site Rep so, in the short term, RB has agreed to cover the role until a replacement is found. SS has agreed to stay on as Site Warden.</p>	<p>CRC</p> <p>RB</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Items for discussion 1. Fencing discussed in Newland Site Report above. 2. Approach from Witney Food Revolution An email has been received from Witney Food Revolution Community Fridge and Larder asking if they would be able to arrange to collect any surplus produce from sites. This was discussed and sites already have a sharing table that ensures that excess produce is used by other plot holders. Also a plot holder on WP has already asked WP tenants to deliver any excess produce to her plot which she then takes to Witney Fridge. 3. Progress report on Association split and information to be shared with Tenants. At recent Committee of Management meetings, representatives from Lakeside have made it clear that they would like a formal split to take place. DN has contacted the NSALG who have advised that although the Constitution requires 75% of the members to agree, this does not have to be achieved via a meeting where all members are present as this is just not feasible or achievable. Instead the NSALG have said that it would be acceptable to draw up a document that clearly stated what the WAA C of M were proposing, including division of assets etc, that tenants could then be asked to read and sign if they were in agreement. An initial meeting could be held to explain the proposal and any members in agreement at the meeting would be able to sign to indicate their agreement. Further copies of this document could then be used by site reps to gather signatures from tenants while they are on site. DN will work with the NSALG to produce a draft proposal to be taken to the next C of M meeting in September.</p>	<p>DN</p> <p>DN</p>

	<p>WTC have agreed to potentially provide two separate leases. There was a discussion amongst WAA North committee members about whether a complete split was necessary bearing in mind that we now have two separate committees.</p>	
7	<p>Structure Applications No structure applications were received.</p>	
8	<p>Any Other Business King's Seeds catalogues for 2026 have arrived and were distributed to site reps. DN contacted Lakeside to arrange handover of their catalogues but they have now set up their own account and have their own supply of catalogues. It was agreed that WAA (North) will reduce the number of catalogues received to 70. Many people order online and it was considered to be more environmentally friendly to encourage tenants to return catalogues to their site once they have placed their order so that other catalogues get re-used.</p>	DN
9	<p>Date of Next Meeting. The date of the next meeting will be Monday 6th October 2025 at 6.30pm at Diane's house.</p>	

R Bourget

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WAA North Chair