

**DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF DUNDEE ALLOTMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION GROUP**

Held on Wednesday 25 November 2015 at 2pm
Environment Department, 3 City Square, Dundee

Present: Peter Sandwell, Environment Department, Dundee City Council
Andrew Reid, Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society (SAGS)
Peter Marshall, South Road Allotment Association
Len Jamieson, Stirling Park Allotments
Raymond McGregor, Old Craigie Road Allotments
Hazel Elder, West Law Allotment Association
Helene Millar, City Road Allotment Association

Apologies: Alex Cathro, Ancrum Road Allotments
Janet Wade, Environment Department, Dundee City Council
Alex Gouick, Magdalen Green Allotment Association
Ronald Cant, Kinnaird Allotments
David Pedder, West Law Allotment Association

Action

Empowerment Bill

Peter Sandwell and Kate Treharne are going to Victoria Quay on 2 December re: implications of Empowerment Act. Scottish Government updating managers and bodies on community growing.

PS has not responded to any consultations regarding compulsory purchase of ground.

In preparing for the Allotment Act, the department has contacted people on waiting list, this has reduced the waiting list down to 80. This will now be held electronically.

If Allotment Associations have vacancies we can advise people on our waiting list.

All growing beds at Douglas are allocated. Not sure of position at Ancrum. To start at Ardler between Community Centre and NHS building on existing hard standing.

Garden Leave managing Dudhope - to work with local veterans - raised beds.

With respect of the Allotment Act, nothing has been presented to committee yet. Learning over 3 years.

Keep list and report to Scottish Government - exclude Gardner Street, Magdalen Green and Arklay Street.

1. Matters arising from Minutes of 12 August

None

2. Remit and purpose of meeting and group

Look at remit in view of changes / work required by Council.

3. Membership of Group

Representatives of all allotments, where no Societies present - individuals.

4. Programme of Implementation

- 4.1 Welcome Pack on the website www.dundee.gov.uk/environment/allotments. Still to update contacts page. Additional 100 paper copies to be printed.

5. Immediate tasks / short term issues

5.1 Fencing

City Road: been to committee, to be finished by 31 March. Holes need to be filled on main path. Helene to contact John Whyman for advice, as paths really bad.

Law: Committee approval - permission to start from lottery - start in new year. Major works to footpaths from allotment to top and also steps. Employment of part-time Community Participation Officer to tell story of whole of Law and also digital method. Hope to include allotments in information. Signage / footpaths / community.

5.2 Leases

PS to chase re South Road. Water still coming through site. One leak fixed, one still there.

South Road looking to apply for charity status, this should not have any impact on Lease. It helps by wiping out water expenses, makes it easier to apply for small grants, with SCO the Trustees are not liable. You require someone competent in accounts. At final stages. Good to share experiences with SAGS.

City Road } Michelle to chase
Murrayfield }

MG

5.3 Skips

PS suggest wait until new year when whole environment under Gary Robertson. Fly tipping to be resolved. Skips cost a lot (Foisa 3 years ago £17K).

6. Longer term action - Allotment Survey / Audit

6.1 Surveys

Putting out Surveys to council run allotments.

7. Group Updates

7.1 West Law

- Path at far end outwith allotments - should get picked up with the Law.

7.2 Stirling Park

- Len meeting Ally after meeting.

7.3 Old Craigie Road

- No complaints recently.

7.4 City Road

- Trying to get plumbing into hut
- Fencing still outstanding
- Seeking advise from John Whyman

7.5 Ancrum Road

- Alex hasn't seen any evidence of weed spraying
- External paths responsibility of Engineers and to be repaired by April 2016

7.6 South Road

- Have application in for compost toilets.
- Have circulated Parks Regulations to all ploholders. Noticeboard on order to display regulations. No more issues.

8. AOCB

8.1 Council restructuring - our department will become Neighbourhood Services, incorporating Environment, Communities and Housing with Elaine Zwirlein as our new Executive Director. Gary Robertson, Head of Environment.

8.2 Had an enquiry re Old Piggery - PS to meet.

PS

9. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday 24 February 2016 @ 2pm
Meeting Room 1:1, 3 City Square

cc: Ken Laing
Gary Robertson
Rod Houston
Ally Lawson
Michelle Glass
Jake Pratt
Jay Grant
Jim Wilson
Sandy Boyd
John Whyman
Ross Watson