



**Minutes of the Allotment Committee meeting held on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at
The Grange Sports Field, Northampton Road, Earls Barton.**

Present: Cllr Vicky Gould (Chair), Cllr Steve Dodds, Cllr Polly Hadman, Cllr Steve Hiscock, Mr B West.

1. **Public Speaking Time** – no members of the public were in attendance.
2. **Apologise for Absence** – none received.
3. **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest** – none were declared.
4. **Inspections and Maintenance** – a number of plots were identified as requiring attention. It was agreed that an inspection would be carried out on Sunday 2nd April. The Clerk will create an inspection log to record plots and areas that need attention and the action to be taken. The Clerk advised that some asbestos removal had been carried out at the allotment. Two plots with outstanding rent to be chased-up.
5. **Update on untenanted plots and waiting list** – the clerk advised that there are currently two available plots. One of these (plot 33) can be let immediately. The other (plot 15) relates to a tenant who has died and we are currently waiting for the next of kin to remove all personal items. It was noted that it would be unlikely that plot 15 could be split due to the structures on the plot. A request from an individual who had been helping maintain plot 15 to take over the plot was discussed. It was agreed that this would be unfair as there is already a waiting list with some waiting over 6 months for a plot.
6. **Man Cave Community Plot** – it was noted that the plots are no longer used as part of the Man Cave initiative. Those cultivating the plots are now established and we would like them to remain, if they so wish. However, it is unfair on other allotment holders that they are not currently paying rent for their plots and, therefore, options will be discussed with the group and a suggestion made that the tenancy be signed by all involved, or a group set up to represent the tenants, and they can then split the cost of the three plots (£15 each) between them. A meeting will be held with those involved on Sunday 2nd April.
7. **Proposals for consideration by EBPC** – it was resolved to put forward the following recommendations to EBPC:
 - That the plots allocated to the Man Cave are re-let to the group currently cultivating the area, with a new tenancy agreement and the rent split between those involved.
 - That the Allotment Committee Terms of Reference is amended to show the number of meetings required as “up to four per year”.
8. **Any other issues to be raised for consideration at the next meeting** – it was suggested that the Clerk contact the Scouts regarding clearance of the scrap wood on site.

Date of Next Meeting – to be confirmed.