

RUSHDEN PERMANENT ALLOTMENT AND SMALL HOLDING SOCIETY LIMITED

Registered under the Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies Act 2014.

Register no. 3126R

E-mail rushdenallotments@hotmail.co.uk

Field Minutes of the Management Committee Meeting Held on Wednesday 21st April 2021 **Remotely Due to Covid19**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:00pm

Present:

Russell Jarvis	RJ	Dave Flook	DF		
Anita Jarvis	AJ	Mark Cox	MC	Pasq Di Salvo	PDS
Alan Martin	AVM	Pam Clark	PC	Shane Webster	SW
Anita Medlock	AM	John Lowe	JL		

Apologies:

Peter Swindley, Ray Mc Donnell

1. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Proposed RJ Seconded DF All agreed

2. Actions From Previous Meeting

Date matter arose	Subject	Action required	Action taken	Comp
20/1/21	CCTV	Source Signs	SW – Knows a supplier who would do an A3 sign for £15 (if we pay cash, £15 plus VAT if pay Bank Transfer). MC found some on ebay for £1.50 Agreed for MC to order signs from ebay at £1.50	
20/1/21	Investment Account	Recheck which investment has best interest	PDS – Virgin Money at 0.65% for 2 years. Proposed RJ Seconded AVM All agreed PDS to organise	
17/2/21	Silent Alarms	Recheck Costs	SW – Cost £79.95 plus £12 for sim card Total £91.95. (Includes £7 credit on sim card). If 15 or more ordered there will be a 10% discount on the £79.95. Email to be sent to members to if an order can be made up.	
17/2/21	Road Repairs WR	Costs of Road Plainings, roller and scoop	DF – Plainings supplier has let DF down. They have not rung him back. Need to find another supplier.	
17/3/21	Spare Keys	MC to return spare keys to other fields	Forms to be issued to those who have keys to all fields to sign and return	
17/3/21	Mileage Allowance	PDS to provide full rules	PDS – 45p per mile Not able to claim if going to “normal place of work” Claim form required	PDS

17/3/21	Dog Fouling	Reminder email to members	JL – The “Polite” notices appear to have worked.	
17/3/21	Report on rubbish on fence line WR	DF to show AVM	AVM – Large amount of rubbish that has accumulated over many years. There is no fencing behind the rubbish. MC & AVM to have a look to estimate how many skips to clear rubbish	MC & AVM

3. Secretary's Report and Correspondence

3.1. BR member, 25/3/21 – Permission for timber framed polytunnel /Greenhouse. The size will be 8ft x 6ft. – **Agreed.**

3.2. WR member, 26/3/21 – Permission for Greenhouse, 10 x 8 and shed 6 x 4. – **Agreed.**

3.3. HR member, 27/3/21 – Permission for shed and polytunnel – **Agreed.**

3.4. HR member, 11/4/21 – Report that part of his rhubarb on his plot has been dug up and removed

JL – Met member at plot. He is a new member and just been allocated the plot. Members rhubarb had been dug up and put in compost bin.

2 watering cans and tools taken (rake and spade)

Another plot that is about to be let has had slabs from a path taken.

JL has asked that members are informed that nothing can be removed from vacant plots without permission.

JL asked if a member has ever been expelled for theft. DF replied that it was some time ago.

JL asked if we have the building alarms do we have to advertise that we have them fitted.

PC said that members will know about the alarms if they read the minutes.

Suggested that some of the detail is suppressed from the field minutes.

3.5. BR member, - permission for small shed, 250cm x 180cm – **Agreed.**

3.6. HR member, 13/4/21 – Permission for shed 8 x 6 – **Agreed.**

3.7. HR Member, 13/4/21- Permission for hose pipe and Chickens

Member has not done the 2 years so will be turned down for chickens.

Will explain to them the water licence and fee.

3.8. 26 emails/phone calls from various members for plug plants

3.9. BR member, 18/4/21, Permission for shed – **Agreed.**

3.10. BR member, 19/4/21, Permission for 8 x 6 Shed – **Agreed.**

3.11. North Northants Council, 21/4/21, Clearance of Brambles / Fly tipping – asked for a donation to the cost.

As this not occurring on any land owned by the Society we will not contribute to the cost.

4. Warning letters

Warning Letters							
Name	Field	Polite letter sent	Outcome	1 st letter sent	Outcome	2 nd letter sent	Outcome
	HR			25/06/20	Email reply received 29/06/2020		Monitor
	WR			20/1/21	No response	Issue	DF asked for final letter to

							be reversed But the member will be monitored
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5. **Treasurer's Report**

Rent has now pretty much been collected. £135.00 now outstanding overall.
2 members outstanding.

Store sales since our last meeting:

BR	£942.98
GR	£664.27
HR	£272.40
WR	£596.70

6. **Field Reports**

Highfield Road

Rubbish Pile in corner of field

JL bought up the rubbish in the corner of Highfield Road. There are 2 large piles. They are not items that could be burnt and they are too close to the houses.

Possible create additional car parking in this area.

First clear the rubbish – Hire a skip

PC stated that a 4 yard skip from Mick's Refuse is £195.

RJ offered to get a quote for the hire of a digger from Stable Hire to remove the earth that was left over from laying the water system. PC said if it is no more than £200 we should just go ahead and do it so as not to wait another month.

RJ put forward a Skip with a maximum price of £250, and a digger on a weekend hire.

PC added a maximum budget of £550.

Agreed to hire skip and digger.

Washbrook Road

Let last plot so now full.

Letter to member. Rent is outstanding. Will ask him if he is continuing.

Bedford Road

Grafton Road /Small Holding

7. **Store**

Plug plants have gone well. Total sell value £224.

8. **Health and Safety**

Nothing to report

9. **Any Other Business**

Secretary Interviews

Some of the committee do not want to wait for the covid restrictions to be lifted to interview the candidates.

There will be Teams meeting interviews held on Wednesday 28th April. One at 7:00 and one at 8:00pm.

Replacement of ride on mower from insurance money

A replacement has been found from the supplier. The Society will have to add approx £200 to the insurance claim. There is currently no mowing going on at Highfield Road until the replacement is delivered.

AVM asked if this is a mower for all four fields.

RJ said that this was to replace the stolen Highfield Road ride on mower that we have insurance money for.

AVM asked how often the grass is cut.

JL – Once a week.

AVM asked how we cut the grass on the other fields.

RJ said that Washbrook Road and Grafton Road do not have the volume of grass to cut as the other fields. At Bedford Road there are 3 of us that do the mowing. It would be nice to have a ride on mower at Bedford Road but we do not have a build to store one in.

MC asked why we do not have one ride on to share between all the fields.

RJ – The problem with that is the moving of the mower.

SW thought it had been agreed to have a mower on each field.

RJ – Bedford Road would have to have a new building as well to keep in. That would make cost prohibitive.

SW thought MC was going to get a mower.

MC said he would like to get a second hand one. It would be built better than a new one. But RJ was concerned about paying a large amount in cash. MC admitted that buying one second hand the sellers would not want a bank transfer.

MC said that if we are buying one for Highfield Road we should share it.

RJ – One of the reasons that the old one at Washbrook Road got broken was because it kept being moved between Highfield and Washbrook Road's.

MC – said may be that was because AJ and RJ did not put it on the trailer properly.

RJ & AJ pointed out to MC that they were not involved with the moving of the mower.

AVM asked JL to remind him of the cost of the mower proposed to buy

JL - £1799

AVM said if the field needs it the field needs it.

PC asked how much did we get back from the insurance.

PDS – £1600

RJ said would have to add £200 as the insurance company reduced for wear and tear on the age.

PC asked if the insurance is still "live"?

RJ- It is part of our general insurance

PC so we will only have to pay the £200 extra. We should just do it.

MC feels that the mower should be shared with the other fields.

AVM states that we should buy one for each field, only £6000, we have the money just sitting in the bank earning next to nothing.

MC agrees but we could invest the money in property.

AVM – we are talking about a mower for Highfield Road. If need one on Washbrook Road, one for Bedford Road we should just get them.

MC – lets get 3 mowers

RJ – Bedford Road does not a build to store one in.

AVM suggested replacing the 2nd shed at Bedford Road.

RJ – the area is not large enough.

RJ – AVM ideas are a good idea. We will in the coming years may have to look at the Society buildings, as they are old and may have to be replaced.

AVM – why do we not look at replacing the building.

RJ says – lets take one thing at a time. We had a ride on mower at Highfield Road stolen, We have had the insurance money. The mower was original agreed by the members at an AGM. Lets use the money to replace it and have a separate debate on our other requirements.

MC says that Washbrook Road needs a ride on mower.

RJ suggests that we order the replacement for Highfield Road and then do field visits to Washbrook Road and Bedford Road and measure up what we think our requirements are on the

amount of grass to be cut on both of these fields. This is what we did for Highfield Road and presented it to the members at an AGM to justify the purchase of a mower.

JL – Has no opinion on who owns the mower it belongs to the Society or uses it as long as it is at Highfield Road when JL wants to cut the grass. JL wants to be able to go to the field at it is there available.

SW bought up by looking on ebay that we could buy three second hand ones for £2100.

MC we would get better ones by paying cash.

RJ is not comfortable buying second hand, no warranties, we don't even know if they would be stolen.

RJ Proposed that the replacement is purchased from the insurance money with the addition of £200. Seconded by AJ

SW will it be shared by the three fields.

RJ as long as it is at Highfield when JL needs it.

MC respects what JL has said but he can not be the sole keeper of the mower. It should be used at Washbrook Road Monday, Highfield Tuesday....

RJ said you can't say that as you do not know what the weather is going to be.

MC so we are all going to fight over the mower on a Monday.

RJ no. We are replacing a mower that was based at Highfield Road. As said before we can measure the grass at the other fields to see what is appropriate and cost it up

MC – Why should Washbrook Road be pushed to the back of the queue.

RJ – I knew some of you would try and stall the replacement..

In Favour	Against	Abstained
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RJ, AJ, SW, JL	AM, PC, MC	AVM, DF
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MC will vote against unless Washbrook Road is looked after as well.

4 In favour, 3 Against, 2 Abstained

Mower will be ordered

DF feels aggrieved that he used take the Washbrook Road mower to Highfield Road. When Highfield Road got theirs it was never offered to DF at Washbrook Road. He has to use hand mower, sometimes his own.

RJ added that he uses his own at Bedford Road.

DF added that RJ uses the tractor on Bedford Road.

RJ pointed out that the tractor has not been used since the plots have been put in on the upper part of the field.

RJ said that DF and RJ should look separately at what is required for the other fields.

AVM

Asked what would be the time scale.

RJ said for the next meeting.

AM said he won't do it.

MC said again why are we not buying 3 ride on mowers.

RJ because we would have to have a building at Bedford Road.

MC get 2 mowers, Why does Washbrook Road has to be at the back of the pile every time.

RJ – That is not true.

MC – lets get 2 mowers.

Other committee members agreed.

RJ will get prices for a self propelled mower for Bedford Road.

BR member

RJ - Their emails are contradictory. First one says that RJ spoke to them, the second says it was PS. I have them looked by an independent. RJ just wants it recorded that the member had lied about him.

AVM & PC stated they had not seen their emails.

RJ pointed out that the emails are in the last meetings minutes.

AM was not happy that RJ has had the emails looked at by an outsider.

RJ stated that the names had been removed.
PC feels that RJ is victimising the member now.

Meeting Closed 9:30pm

Date of next meeting Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 7:00pm

Signed_____

Counter signed_____

Date _____

Action Points from Meeting		
Subject	Action required	Who
Shed Alarms	Email to be sent to members to if an order can be made up.	RJ
Reply to Permissions		RJ
Reply to North Northants		RJ
Skip & Digger	Hire for Highfield Road	RJ
WR member	Letter to find out if he is continuing with plot	RJ
Secretary Interviews	Setup and invite candidates to interviews	RJ
Ride on Mowers – HR and WR	Order Mowers	RJ
Self propelled mower for BR	Get prices for a self propelled mower	RJ

Rushden Permanent Allotment and Small Holdings Society Limited					
Income and Expenditure Account					
Expenditure			Income		
Anglian Water	£1,078.79		Annual Rents	£11,686.95	
	BR	£534.66	New Rents	£704.25	
	GR	£26.73	Floats for stores and rent day		
	HR	£279.04	Stores Sales	£5,408.72	
	WR	£238.36		BR	£1,718.88
	Hay	£0.00		GR	£1,073.74
Printing, Stationary and Postage	£272.51			HR	£1,062.20
Floats for stores and rent day	£0.00			WR	£1,553.90
Stores Purchases	£5,811.68		Ploughing, rotavating, topping	£56.25	
Field Hours £	£95.92		Rent card / website sponsorship	£0.00	
	BR	£34.88	Donations from members	£0.00	
	GR	£0.00	Machinery/accessory sales	£0.00	
	HR	£0.00	Replacement/Additional key	£0.00	
	WR	£61.04	Sales of pre-loved & ex stock	£0.00	
Field Machinery (Fuel)	£64.50		Seed Orders	£0.00	
	BR	£53.00	Brittons Potatoes	£0.00	
	GR	£0.00	Misc Income	£1,612.40	
	HR	£6.50	Transfers from deposit accounts	£5,500.00	
	WR	£5.00	Assoc. Mem's	£0.00	
Official documents, etc	£0.00		P in the P - Rushden Council	£0.00	
Tractor Fuel	£0.00		Wayleave Consent - WPower	£0.00	
Locks and Keys	£256.27		Socials	£0.00	
	BR	£45.99	Water Licence	£825.00	
	GR	£36.99			
	HR	£76.30			
	WR	£96.99			
Field / Property Maintenance	£69.01				
	BR	£7.99			
	GR	£7.99			
	HR	£46.04			
	WR	£6.99			
Website / Publicity	£0.00				
Professional Fees (accounts,etc)	£936.00				
Gifts / rewards / donations	£0.00				
Equip't Repairs & Servicing	£291.35				
Insurance and Safety	£532.55				
Hire of halls and refreshments	£0.00				
Equipment purchases	£425.51				
Field Steward rewards	£0.00				
EDF	£57.16				
Officer (Sec/Tres) payments	£1,085.41				
Tax - HMRC Corp. & FCA	£35.00				
Key and share returns / refunds	£6.50				
Grafton Rd - refreshments	£0.00				
CCTV -Sim Cards	£79.41				
Payment to Kings Seeds (orders)	£0.00				
Britton's Potatoes	£0.00				
Good gardening rewards	£0.00				
Bank charges	£0.00				
Transfer To Deposit	£12,500.00				
Misc Exp	£0.00				
CCTV Installation	£1,481.05				
	£25,078.62			£25,793.57	
Income over Expenditure	£714.95				
	£25,793.57				
Balance as at 19/04/21					
Income and Expenditure Account at 31/10/21			Cash with Cashier		
HSBC Current Account	£3,781.61		HSBC Current Account	£4,499.06	
Cash	£0.00		Cash	£0.00	
Floats	£90.00		Floats	£90.00	
Income over Expenditure	£714.95				
	£4,586.56			£4,589.06	
			Investment Accounts:	£181,325.77	