

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

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

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

**Apologies:** Ronald Cant, Kinnaird Allotments  
Janet Wade, Environment Department, Dundee City Council

**Action**

**Empowerment Bill**

PS invited to a meeting, but was unable to go.

Actions:

1. Provide information on the way in which local authorities (LAs) may negotiate additional funds to enable delivery of the new duties/powers (NB: Scottish Government policy is that if LAs are required to carry out new duties/powers the LA needs to quantify and demonstrate the costs associated with delivery of those duties/powers in advance of any additional funding being considered).
2. Circulate details of contact for COSLA Bill Reference Group.
3. Provide feedback to group on SAGS' position following meeting on Thursday.
4. Organise a follow up meeting next week - w/c 23 February.

Update on actions:

1. A Fox will contact relevant colleagues to get info on process for negotiating funds under SOA.
2. Anil kindly identified Rhona Welsh as the contact, her details are [rhona@cosla.gov.uk](mailto:rhona@cosla.gov.uk)
3. SAGS' position remains the same, they would like to see a reference size on the face of the Bill with other size growing areas provided that are proportions of an allotment.
4. Details regarding a follow up meeting will follow shortly.

SAGS: Do not support Section 7 of the Bill and asked for it to be removed.

Fair Rent Clause, which was dropped from previous bill.

3 discussions in Parliament, Stage 1 done, Stage 2 being progressed, then Stage 3.

Following consultation, the new bill aims to amend the current legislation relating to allotments.

Scottish Government website for document:- [www.scottish.parliament.uk](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk)

## 1. Matters arising from Minutes of 20 August

- 1.2 Douglas now holding weekly training sessions. Polytunnel up today and water catchment.

Ancrum: Community Garden, fencing and wall all done. Alex speaking to Ross - repairs in hand. Committee Report covered 3 areas, wall, boundary fences, raised beds, remarking of plots and upgrading of sheds and greenhouses. This work will cover the £30K budget.

Raised beds starter projects wanted to do 3 areas Douglas, Lochee and Whorterbank. Strathmartine Ward (Kirkton, Ardler, St Marys) looked at site in Ardler - currently with NHS, area in Kirkton behind Haldane shops working with Housing behind Attic, just an orchard and a church in St Marys.

## 2. Remit and purpose of meeting and group

To take forward the Allotment Strategy 2010 and prepare an Action Plan. Peter recapped Allotment Strategy actions to new members of the group.

## 3. Membership of Group

Representatives of all allotments, where no Societies, individuals.

## 4. Programme of Implementation

- 4.1 PS handed out more Welcome Packs - these are working well. These are still to be put on website.

## 5. Immediate tasks / short term issues

### 5.1 Fencing

PS to check if small amount of money in capital for next year.

### 5.2 Leases

City Road: still paying money to Council, but no lease. PS to check on leases, City Road, South Road, West Law - not signed, Murrayfield. Awards for All will not let them apply for grant without a Lease.

**PS**

### 5.3 Skips

Strategy to do away with skips. PS to speak to Janet Wade to arrange going out to allotments and work through.

**PS/JW**

## 6. Longer term action - Allotment Survey / Audit

### 6.1 Surveys

Alex asked if these could be sent out to Ancrum plot holders with Missives.

Note: Unfortunately Missives had been sent out that morning (25 February)

## 7. Group Updates

### 7.1 West Law

- Perimeter wall full of roots - can the wall be taken down or does it have to be retained. It is a retaining wall, but the wall is inside the fence.

7.2 Stirling Park

- Entrance gate access still to be sorted - people able to climb over the gate.

7.3 Old Craigie Road

- Gaps between fence and road. Ongoing - Ally not dealing with.

7.4 City Road

- Would like someone to look at paths going down on slope - PS will speak to John Whyman. **PS**

7.5 Ancrum Road

- External path - Ancrum Road to top gate - entry to allotment dangerous. Re responsibility - PS to check. **PS**

**8. AOCB**

- 8.1 Looking at "Take A Pride In....." (Your Allotments) - to be launched before school holidays. Progressing with community groups re Britain in Bloom City Category.

Allotment Competition and Garden Competition - not only look at plots but individual sites, general agreement. Trying to encourage people to tidy up everywhere.

- 8.2 Law re-submitted application to Heritage Lottery Fund about interpretation and footpaths.

**9. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday 27 May @ 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