DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF DUNDEE ALLOTMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Held on Wednesday 1 June 2016 at 2pm
Neighbourhood Services, 3 City Square, Dundee

Present: Peter Sandwell, Neighbourhood Services, Dundee City Council
Alex Cathro, Ancrum Road Allotments
Raymond McGregor, Old Craigie Road Allotments
Hazel Elder, West Law Allotment Association
Helene Millar, City Road Allotment Association
Ken Somerville, City Road Allotment Association
Kenny Watt, Murrayfield Allotments
Jan Williamson, Dundee Federation of Garden & Allotment Holders

Apologies: Andrew Reid, Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society (SAGS)
Alex Gouick, Magdalen Green Allotment Association
Peter Marshall, South Road Allotment Association
Ronald Cant, Kinnaird Allotments
David Pedder, West Law Allotment Association
Janet Wade, Neighbourhood Services, Dundee City Council

Action

Peter informed those in the group, who did not already know, Len Jamieson had passed away. Peter recognised the work Len did with the Federation and Stirling Park Allotments, he will be sadly missed.

Empowerment Bill

Briefings been going on. Scottish Government looking for guidance to come out towards the end of the year.

Peter Duncan of Fife Council seconded to Scottish Government to help prepare guidance. He will prepare the Food Growing Strategy.

We are holding back updating the Strategy until guidelines on the above have been prepared. Also wait for guidance on the management of waiting lists, etc.

1. Matters arising from Minutes of 24 February

PS not chased re smoke free zone - it was suggested we leave this.

Ally/Gary preparing committee report re City Road - £30k, to complete the upgrading of the fencing. Can they include gate?

PS has checked re planning permission on fence and path work, not required if less than £250K and council undertaking the work.

2. Remit and purpose of meeting and group

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

3. Membership of Group

Invited representative from Gardner Street.
4. **Programme of Implementation**

4.1 Welcome Pack on the website [www.dundeecity.gov.uk/environment/allotments](http://www.dundeecity.gov.uk/environment/allotments). Additional welcome packs have been made up, if required.

4.2 Tesco Bags of Help - not sure if allotments are eligible to apply for this money, more community based. Closing date coming up.

4.3 Kate Treharne won money for compost toilet at Riverside Nature Park.

5. **Immediate tasks / short term issues**

5.1 **Fencing**
City Road: Capital. PS has indicated that Murrayfield are looking to undertake fence repairs.

5.2 **Leases**
Murrayfield: Kenny spoke with Gavin Falconer, he expects Lease to be signed within next few weeks.

5.3 **Skips**
Not settled. PS to raise with his Manager on his return to work. Look at the arrangements that can be put in place if we take away skips. This can also be raised with Janet Wade by individual allotment societies.

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

6.1 **Surveys**
The objective of the group is to put together an action plan taken from the surveys received. Identify what needs doing, allotment associations will probably have to deal with most of the issues themselves. The plans require more work for next meeting.

   If you would like more surveys please advise Karen and she will get these out to you. 24 to be posted out to City Road.

7. **Group Updates**

7.1 Murrayfield
- First six months of new committee, settling down, still one minor internal problem
- Happy with Lease which will help with grant applications
- Committee using money to help site
- Waiting list of 3

7.2 Ancrum Road
- Alex asked if Grant Orrock could be copied into the Minutes
- Vacancies increased from 17 to 25 - let 22 with 3 needing filled
- External path fixed and looking good. Lights also replaced
- Internal paths still have moss, not fixed
- Community Shed condemned - repairable by independent joiner
- Entrance gate at bottom sorted
- Gate at top condemned - emergency repaired - all needs replaced - rusting hinges
- Washhand basins and pedestal could be looked at
- Grant getting rubbish cleared
7.3 City Road

- 3' high retaining wall falling away - PS to get someone to have a look and give advice.
- 7 on waiting list

7.4 West Law

- Jake Pratt provided covering for far end path and fixing gate.

7.5 Old Craigie Road

- Ok

8. AOCB

8.1 Jan advised Federation AGM on 30 June, 7pm, Grey Lodge. Looking for new Chair and Treasurer.

She wondered how to publicise Federation for forthcoming AGM at end of June. It was suggested she contact the press direct; try Alastair Smith at Wave 102 or Tay FM; John Stoa from the Courier.

8.2 Law Project moving ahead. Community Participation Officer, Colin Donald, part time for 2 years, he may be in touch. Path work moving quickly.

8.3 Societies requested to promote Garden & Allotment competition to members.

8.4 Dundee Flower & Food Festival - Wheelbarrow Competition and George Gibson Memorial Rosebowl - please promote to Societies.

8.5 Dundee Flower & Food Festival Leaflets circulated. Highlighted Friday tickets £9.

8.6 Map and list of sites to be circulated with minutes.

9. Date of Next Meeting
   Wednesday 10 August 2016 @ 2pm
   Meeting Room 1:1, 3 City Square

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