DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF DUNDEE ALLOTMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Held on Wednesday 24 February 2016 at 2pm
Neighbourhood Services, 3 City Square, Dundee

Present:  Peter Sandwell, Neighbourhood Services, Dundee City Council
          Andrew Reid, Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society (SAGS)
          Alex Cathro, Ancrum Road Allotments
          Raymond McGregor, Old Craigie Road Allotments
          Hazel Elder, West Law Allotment Association
          Helene Millar, City Road Allotment Association
          Kenny Watt, Murrayfield Allotments

Apologies: Len Jamieson, Stirling Park Allotments
          Alex Gouick, Magdalen Green Allotment Association
          Ronald Cant, Kinnaird Allotments
          David Pedder, West Law Allotment Association
          Peter Marshall, South Road Allotment Association
          Janet Wade, Environment Department, Dundee City Council

Empowerment Bill

Not progressed, awaiting Empowerment Act Guidelines to be put out. No information sent to committee as yet.

PS will attach link with minutes.

Consultation released on compulsory purchase of Allotments. Food Growing Strategy and management of waiting lists and needs.

Peter Duncan of Fife Council seconded to Scottish Government to help prepare guidance. Once guidance received start preparing.

We have been managing the department’s waiting list, going through and reducing numbers. All council owned properties to report on annual basis. We have 4 private - 2 large; 2 small.

1. Matters arising from Minutes of 25 November

Alex Cathro spoke to Grant Orrock, Ancrum have about 5 vacant. 1 new free, to be split before allocating.

80 on waiting list over the 4 council managed sites.

Waiting Lists: Association managed allotments should contact Dundee City Council with vacancies and we can pass details on to next person on our waiting list.

Community Allotments: Gardening Leave ceased to operate, awaiting update from another company. Not sure what we can do short term.


New Garden at Ardler - ready to operate and the garden at St Mary’s Church is also ready.

Welcome Packs - if you need any for new season let us know. Passed packs to Kenny Watt.
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.dundeecity.gov.uk/environment/allotments](http://www.dundeecity.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: Section done between two brick walls. Pentland - trees cut back. Not doing bottom and slope. Helene emailed Ally asking for clarification for second part. Money in for next year, still to put Committee Report in. Possibly include corner piece of ground into site. Require to speak to Housing and Transportation re sightlines.

John Whyman gave advice - possible community payback to do some work, hope to get some hard core. PS to speak to Ally to see if spare material - 2 tons required.

Murrayfield: panel grid fencing with barbed wired that would require work. Rest seems quite secure.

5.2 Leases

City Road

Murrayfield: Kenny spoke with Gavin Falconer in December and again in January, he is going to keep chasing. There had been a proposal 18 months ago, but he is not sure what happened to this.

5.3 Skips

Peter spoke to Gary Robertson, who is now responsible for Waste Management, Street Cleaning and Parks. Once internal structures are settled he will speak to Gary to take forward removing skips and look for alternative methods.

Stirling Park will be hard to resolve; Old Craigie have public coming in and dumping.

Progress over next three months. May have closer work with recycling.

West Law: Greenhouse glass to be collected, Hazel to speak to Janet Wade - everything else is taken home.

6. Longer term action - Allotment Survey / Audit

6.1 Surveys

Surveys put out. If these could be returned by May we can then work to turn into action plan over summer.

Advise Karen how many each area needs.

40 Surveys given to Kenny Watt for Murrayfield.

7. Group Updates

7.1 Murrayfield

- Kenny thanked the Federation and Peter for intervention. They now have 10 committee members and everything seems settled. He has written to Neil Gellatly, Transportation re disabled and kids groups wanting speed bumps. It was suggested he try John Berry/Mike Welsh/Jim Gordon.
• Encourage recycling
• Hoping for a peaceful year.

7.2 Ancrum Road

• Path cleared up. It was reported by City Development that repairs would happen by April 2016, this doesn’t look likely.
• Internal paths difficult - moss - trying to clear. Grant Orrock looking at.
• Communal Sheds - difficulties. Unable to put in portacabin. PS to speak to Grant.
• Damage to entrance gate at bottom has been reported a couple of times - not closing may fall down.

7.3 City Road

• Plumbing into hut
• Fence still outstanding - should be finished end March
• John Whyman very good, gave suggestions
• Retaining walls (to stop landfill) sleeper materials rotting - looking for grant. Could they get someone to look at re drainage. Site Engineer to look at (Ross Watson).

7.4 West Law

• Awaiting Planning Permission for portacabin
• Paths will be sorted once Law sorted.

7.5 Old Craigie Road

• Raymond - asbestos on one plot. Council won’t remove. Go to private agent. £600-£700 4 plots. Shed roof, edging, screwed onto fence.

8. **AOCB**

8.1 Law Project: should have started - now end March east and west steps. Materials commission from lottery - everything in place. Recycled plastic steps - long lasting.

8.2 Community Participation Officer working on Law as part of Heritage Lottery Fund. They may be in touch.

8.3 Smoke Free Zone shouldn’t be allowed to burn. Clepington Road and Stirling Park burn. Environmental Health Pollution - PS will check.

9. **Date of Next Meeting**
   Wednesday 25 May 2016 @ 2pm - TBC
   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