Minutes of PPAA Committee Meeting 3rd November 2027, 7pm, The Cricketers, Pontcanna

Present
Mike Powell, Sue Pasek, Martin Pasek, Gordon Goldsmith, Wendy Gunter, Rhys Williams, Sera Jones, Adrian Peters

Sera was welcomed to the meeting.

Apologies for Absence
Lewis Evans, Nerys Lloyd Pierce

Matters arising from the previous meeting are dealt with below.

Site Representative's Report (since last meeting)

Tree amnesty is proceeding with a good response.
Three working parties to clear derelict plots have been held.
Four plots let.
Three new tenants who have not cultivated given final warning letters.
Two structure applications have been received.
Six names removed from waiting list, no longer interested or uncontactable etc.
Top of the waiting list is now from January 2026.
Waiting list is currently about 170 and is still closed.
13 vacant plots, mostly badly overgrown and large amount of rubbish to remove.
More working parties are planned, needed with better attendance.
Three waste pick ups from four plots at a cost of £1,152 and other contractor charges of £400.
Site Representative Fee received, £389, four months late.
Numerous emails have been sent on behalf of tenant to the allotments office regarding the new tenancy and other issues.
Orkastrate remains read only, so of limited usefulness.
Met with Allotments Officer 21/10/2026 and cleared many issues.

Cardiff Allotments Holders Association (CAHA) met 21st October and will take the following issues to sites meeting with Council officials
Failure of Parks to reply to emails even within the 28 days stated.
What will Parks do about tenants who will not have a tenancy in February?
Check up promised actions regarding failure to issue invoices.
Failure of Parks to carry out eviction process and to inform Site Representatives of actions or non-actions leading to derelict plots and disillusionment of volunteers.

TREASURER'S UPDATE

Finances are still healthy. However, plot clearance costs this financial year so far have been very significant. Tool replacement (see below), tree work and further plot clearing will cost significantly amounts and expenditure will be reviewed at each future meeting.

NEW TENANCY

No spreadsheet in digital format received although promised for 23rd September. Some other sites have received them. Information on tenancy roll out given to Site Representative at meeting on 21st October.
As of that date 164 tenancies completed which represents about 68% of current tenancies. Six plots given up in response to new tenancy. With a further nine to apparently lapse later.

Break in 24-25th October

Both shop and lock up were broken into. Electric power tools and trolley were stolen.
It was agreed to replace power tools at a cost of about £2,000 and these will be stored off site from now on. The trolley will also be replaced.
A quote to enhance security of the lock up will be obtained.

MANURE DELIVERIES

Site Representative met with Ann Peate, Cardiff Riding School, 30th September 2026.

Assurances have been received that the contamination of manure deliveries with shredded rubber should now be minimal. It was agreed to continue to accept manure deliveries.

Mike Powell, Adrian Peters and Gordon Goldsmith will be responsible for receiving deliveries.

Contact lists and email addresses

Tenants are reminded that both the PPAA and the Allotments office must be made aware of any change of email address.

Rodents etc

John Morgan to be invited to next meeting

Bulb planting

This is ongoing (Gordon Goldsmith and Nerys Lloyd Pierce).

Plot 50b

Plot 50b does not appear on the council supplied database. There is some land behind 50a and this could be used by plot neighbours.

AOB

Sue wanted to remind the Committee to be aware, that when acting in an official capacity, they should not appear to promote any partisan cause, which may lead to some people feeling unwelcome on the site.

Martin Pasek raised the issue of the remaining petrol tools. These will be assessed.

Adrian Peters raised the issue of potential starter plots of one square perch (25m2) with some mentoring. These could be offered for a year to new gardeners at the top of the waiting list as an optional alternative to taking on three to six square perch plots. This idea will be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 1st December 2026 at the Cricketers