

barnet allotment federation

NEWS & NOTES – May 2015

Please send any page contributions, news or events for News and Notes and/or the Federation website to barnetallotmentfederation@gmail.com

Meeting with Barnet – April 2015

On 24th April Gill Saunders, Richard King and Hushang Balyuzi met Oluwatoyin Adeleye-Abiodun and Tracy Sawyer of Barnet Council Greenspaces to discuss the current state of play on allotment business, in particular developments since we last met on 20th March. This note summarises the general points covered.

Overall progress on essential works

The work schedule previous supplied by the Council has been further revised and the latest version *Fed 2015 05 schedule* is attached. Please note that the fencing work assigned to S.W.Bruce in lines 2 and 3 of the spreadsheet in fact represents a single batch of work to be completed by mid-May.

Tarmac work on the allotment sites is still held up while new contractors are appointed, the previous firm having been unable to offer firm completion dates. The Council expects that societies will hear from the new contractor about site visits in the second half of May.

Upgrades to allotment water systems required by Thames Water have reportedly finished while those required by Affinity Water are just starting.

Trees

Oluwatoyin has met LBB's tree section who were responsible for the tree works on sites and established that all the tree work listed in the schedules of condition had been assigned to a contractor and should have been satisfactorily completed (except for some trees alongside the underground line at Whetstone Stray where there may be rail safety implications). She will therefore be meeting the contractor direct to go over the jobs which were either not done or not satisfactorily completed e.g. poisoning stumps with a view to having everything finished off.

Property issues

The items on Greenspaces' work schedule as shown in the spreadsheet represent mainly those jobs for which Greenspaces are responsible and for which they are appoint the contractors. Property issues such as boundary disputes and questions of land ownership are being pursued separately and monitored through weekly meetings between Greenspaces and Barnet's property people, including the lawyer who has the job of sorting most of the issues out.

Site-specific points

Richard King has reported individually to those societies who asked us to raise specific points relating to their sites.

Overall

The tone of the meeting was again constructive and we agreed to meet the Council again on Friday 5th June. As usual, we shall email round in advance to ask whether societies wish us to raise any particular points.

Federation website

Dave Taylor, who created and has maintained the original website and who has entered into a contract with the Federation to move it to a modern platform and to add a substantial amount of new material written by committee members, has started work and has committed to a completion date of May 31.

Society websites

Colin Thomson who maintains the Halliwick Park website has kindly offered to help other societies with their websites. You may contact him by email at me@colinthomson.me.uk.

Plant sale

Lawrence Street Allotments will be holding a plant sale on Sunday May 17 between 11.30 and 3.30. Tomato plants a speciality. Details of the event including a poster have been circulated to societies.

Sites with vacancies

At the last Federation meeting members from sites with long waiting lists asked whether they could be provided with information about any sites that had vacancies, to which they could refer people enquiring about the availability of plots.

The following list shows the sites whose societies reported that they had vacancies at the time that they submitted their annual survey returns in April 2015.

<i>Site</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>Telephone</i>	<i>Email</i>
Abbots Road	HA8	Mr C Nurse	020 8906 4045	abbotsroadallot@gmail.com
Archfields	NW4	Edna Wilson	020 7728 5243	archfieldsplots@gmail.com
Bells Hill	EN5	Tony Robinson	07742 169325	tonyrbsn@gmail.com
Barfield Avenue	N20	Ms A Pender	075 1398 7706	barfield.secretary@outlook.com
Brook Farm	N20	Tom Thorne	078 0225 4176	tom.thorne@uk.g4s.com
Clifford Road	EN5	Mrs L Nunn	020 8440 4352	lettings@crallotments.org.uk
Lawrence Street	NW4	Mike Fisher	020 8959 1579	mikegfisher505@gmail.com
Montrose Avenue	HA8	Sonya	078 7968 2831	dambudzo@mail.com
Rathbone	N20	Mr A Sweeney		mail@superbirdcreative.co.uk
Sanders Lane	NW7	Kirstie Burgin	079 6983 7454	sanders_lane@hotmail.co.uk
Simmons Way	N20	Stella Winskell-Moore	020 8368 5701	aumv71@dsl.pipex.com
Tudor Road	EN5	Mrs L Nunn	020 8440 4352	lettings@crallotments.org.uk
Whetstone Stray	N20	Ms B Falconer	075 4627 9631	info@whetstoneallotments.co.uk
Woodhouse	N12	Ms C Gibson	07957 759710	lettings@woodhouseontheweb.org.uk

Subscriptions

Over half the societies have now paid their subscriptions for 2015. If your society has not paid and requires a copy of the subscription form, please email to barnetallotmentfederation@gmail.com.

You may pay by bank transfer directly into the Federation's account using the following

Account: Barnet Allotment Federation

Sort code: 40-09-10

Account number: 50166405

Reference: *the name of your society*

If you do so, please email the treasurer jean.carr16@gmail.com to let her know, giving the number of members of your society. We now have on-line access to our account, so we can identify payments when they have been made.

Contact details are on the website at <http://www.barnetallotments.org.uk/contact.php>