

Trull Parish Council

Notes of a Meeting held with the Allotment Tenants in the Pearce Suite,
Memorial Hall, Trull on Monday 16th October 2006 at 6.45 pm.

Present: Mr. G. Hewett (Chairman)
15 Allotment Tenants
Mr. S. French, Mr. D. Archer, Mrs. J. Wooldridge, Mr. N. Hancock,
Mr. J. Guy, Mrs. A. Hudson, Mr. P. Parris.

The Chairman welcomed all those present, and thanked the tenants for their attendance.

Notes of previous meeting: Notes of the meeting held on 17th October 2005 were distributed and agreed. Mr. F. Sage requested that notes of the present meeting be copied and distributed to all tenants within the next few weeks, and this was **agreed**.

Compost: This had recently been delivered, and Mr. S. French was thanked.

Water supply: It was **agreed** that Mr. R. Coombes be authorised to turn off the water supply before winter, and turn it on again in the spring, at his discretion.

Access: The Chairman explained the plans to replace the present gate and stile at the Wild Oak Lane entrance with two gates, a 3ft pedestrian one and a 12ft one which would admit a vehicle. They would meet at a removable post in a socket. The owner of the access, Mr. L. Keyte, had given his permission. It was **agreed** to recommend to the Parish Council that it fund and undertake this improvement.

The County Council has agreed to bring the entrance into Trull Meadow from Wild Oak Lane up to wheelchair standard. This would provide an alternative all-weather footpath to the one which currently runs through the allotments. Tenants were asked if they would be in favour of attempting to extinguish the latter. Most were, both to increase security and to exclude dogs (and perhaps badgers), although the point was also made that having people walking through itself increased security. It was **agreed** to review the matter when the work had been carried out on the adjacent footpath.

Maintenance: A plea was made for tenants to keep paths clear – it is sometimes difficult to get from the water taps to the ‘back’ allotments because of overhanging vegetation. It was suggested that new tenants in particular need to be reminded of their responsibilities in this respect.

Much of the rubbish by the kissing gate has already been removed. Mr. S. French agreed to take the remaining metal waste to the scrap yard.

There is still a problem with trees in the hedge bordering Ladylawn overhanging and obstructing the path. Some residents there seemed to feel that hedging would reduce their privacy, but in fact the opposite is true. It was stated that the County Council has a Somerset Landscape Scheme which will give a 50% grant towards such work beside a public footpath. It was **agreed** that the Parish Council should take the initiative in assessing what needs to be done, who might undertake the work and at what cost, and applying for the grant. The residents should then be asked to agree to contribute proportionately to the cost. It was suggested that an initial site

meeting with the residents concerned and representatives of the allotment tenants might be the best way to start this process.

Conclusion: The Chairman and the tenants warmly thanked Mr. R. Coombes, ably assisted by Mr. F. Sage, for all their work at the allotments. He invited the tenants to join the working group which would be planting the spring bulbs kindly donated by Mr. P. Parris (later confirmed as at 10 am on Saturday 11th November, meeting on the Playing Field under the direction of Mrs. J. Wooldridge); and to stay on at the Parish Council meeting for the presentation to Mr. Jim Stagg for cutting Trull Green for 40 years. He closed the meeting at 7.10 pm.

Next meeting: This will be on Monday 15th October 2007 at 6.45 pm in the Pearce Suite of the Memorial Hall, Trull.