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PALS**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, 3rd July 2025, 7.00pm**

**Poor Marsh Allotment Site**

**Present: Jenni Smitton (Chair), Rob Yates (Treasurer), Viv Aldred (Secretary), Angela Bond, June Jordan, Steve Kirby, John Glover, Rebecca Wilson, Melanie Burns**

1. **Apologies:** Carol Wellings
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters arising.**

Minutes of Open Meeting Thursday, 19th June 2025 accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Steve Kirby Seconded: Melanie Burns

**Matters Arising**

Rodents in bee shed need pest control involved (VA/RY)

Strimming area David Bailey to do.

Honey to sell at show – David hopeful (JS/DB)

1. **Chair’s Report - Jenni Smitton**

I know it’s on the agenda later but I must start by saying thank you so much to everyone who joined us on Saturday for our [Scarecrow Competition](https://www.facebook.com/events/681870237205235/?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZWVvpzLJYh71WOM4w6gWdMhyRAthCTAWFdLje-PHzaiWL-Zo2Y8qtLS_He7BPv1UwNxtnbM_rxz3xy5aQpSU1dRnbcpwOI18vO71pQft1ilLpPGK7qKsKTEr6tzXhn-3ZfZPkNLpvPgxhzBLFUQevFPDaP6aPbBi0-1bvBqtbLffRYQrbklebu8kMMywd-7ccU&__tn__=-UK-R). The entries were fantastic, the cakes delicious and the weather was kind. Congratulations to Plot 21 on the winning entry - Spiderman. We raised a fantastic £262 for N[orth West Air Ambulance and they collected this earlier this week. They were amazed that we managed to collect so much in just over 2 hours.](https://www.facebook.com/nwaac?__cft__%5b0%5d=AZWVvpzLJYh71WOM4w6gWdMhyRAthCTAWFdLje-PHzaiWL-Zo2Y8qtLS_He7BPv1UwNxtnbM_rxz3xy5aQpSU1dRnbcpwOI18vO71pQft1ilLpPGK7qKsKTEr6tzXhn-3ZfZPkNLpvPgxhzBLFUQevFPDaP6aPbBi0-1bvBqtbLffRYQrbklebu8kMMywd-7ccU&__tn__=-%5dK-R) Massive thanks to everyone who helped whether that be creating an entry, baking cakes, serving refreshments, erecting the marquee, tidying up after and also all those who help keep our site looking amazing all year. Special thanks to the committee who do so much behind the scenes to prepare for these events.

Carol, Graham and Elizabeth all said that the site is an absolute credit to everyone. Elizabeth was so pleased with all the works and Carol loved her first visit. Carol is now writing the article for the next Parish Council newsletter. It was also lovely to have Tina join us to represent Huntapac and unveil the new fence and plaque.

1. **Treasurer’s Report – Rob Yates**

Update given at AGM, additionally bank have removed account charges.

RY has processed plant invoice, it is well within budget at £456.52. This is our last big liability.

1. **Membership Secretary’s Report**

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| --- | --- |
| **Hesketh Bank** | **12** |
| **Others** | **1** |

1. **Scarecrow Competition**

Prizes have been purchased.

Discussion re frequency of the competition and show. Discussion about extending future scarecrow shows to the village community, local primary school and Becconsall museum.

1. **Inspection update**

Plots 46 and 3a minimal cultivation noted.

Plot 32 has been allocated.

Plot 12 is vacant and weedy.

Next inspection 22/07/25 Rebecca June and Rob 6pm car park.

**8. Dog Fouling**

Angela has arranged for WLDC to provide signage.

Jenni will arrange an additional bag dispenser.

**9. Site security**

Rob observed a person leaning into a plot to take produce.

Email to be sent to plot holders to advise that thefts have been reported (VA)

**10. Volunteer input**

Volunteer coordinator post needs to be filled. Maintenance team may be able to provide a person to do this. People on the waiting list have asked for volunteering opportunities.

Discussion re refreshments for volunteers.

**11. Mikron performance**

Discussion re marquee/ shelter options.

**12. Summer show 30/08/25**

* Brian has agreed that the old marquee can be used for the veg competition. Need a volunteer to assist Brian set up (VA)
* To ask for volunteer to learn judging skills. (VA to send email)
* Large cakes and tray bakes requested.
* Huntapac are offering bagged veg.
* Phil S and wife are offering to do the BBQ.
* Discussion re BBQ supplies and power generators
* Jayne and Brian J will do a bottle tombola.
* Tombola – Ann E will run. A maximum of 5 corks per person per go.
* Raffle prizes – Rebecca will coordinate.
* Trophies – Rob will arrange for these to be engraved for 2 years after the show.

**13. AOB**

* Quiz night 26/09/25 Rob will be quizmaster.
* Green grants application for replacement beds, seat repairs and roses for the Peace Garden Jenni will do.
* Summer show planning meeting dates 17/07/25 7pm and 07/08/25 on the plot.

Date of next Meeting - Thursday 4th September 2025 - Hesketh Bank Community Centre - 7pm