

RAVENSWOOD ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Meeting at the Prince of Wales on Wednesday 29th October 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.

Present:	Apologies:	Non-attendees:
Antony Green	Sandra Finch	John Swithenbank
Bill Harding	Mike Rogers	Dean Wiltshire
Peter Davies	Sue Hone	Desmond Jones
John Kirk	Martyn Davies	
Geoff Adams	Pauline Adams	
Jackie Swithenbank	Ivor Taylor	
		Ken Mareverwa

1. Welcome and apologies.

Action

BH chaired the meeting and accepted apologies from SF, MR, SH, MD, PA, IT, JoS, DW & DJ.

2. CEAF issues.

BH said that the CEAF questionnaires had recently arrived and he had forwarded them to all members, encouraging them to complete it.

BH
Done

3. Equipment usage and petrol money (Petty Cash).

BH said that no chargeable equipment was used during the last 3 months.

4. Communal IBCs.

As the pallet bases are rotting we need to get a better foundation. Having looked at DW's free-standing concrete block base for MR's IBC, it was agreed that this should be applied to the four IBCs located by the Container.

a. Previously, DW had estimated that a pack of 72 concrete blocks would be enough to for the bases, and suggested a cost in the region of £130. BH said that he had applied for a grant which had been successful.

b. Although it was previously agreed that this work should be done at the end of the growing season, BH suggested that we should wait until DW has had his new hip(s) and has fully recovered before proceeding. This was agreed.

All
to note

5. Health & safety.

a. JaS has taken ownership of this aspect of our allotment, and as well as acquiring additional medical supplies and single use eye washes, she would monitor supplies and expiry dates and deal with replacements.

JaS
Ongoing

b. JaS said that she had recently attached a photograph to the inside of the site entrance gate showing the location of the nearest defibrillator, which is on the external wall of the Darran pub near the front door.

JaS
Done

6. Skip.

CEAF will pay the first £200 of the cost of a skip, so we will need to get the skip delivered and paid for before claiming partial reimbursement. It was agreed that when we get a skip, we should put it outside the gate, meaning that when delivered, we will need to put our rubbish in there quickly before it gets filled by others!

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| a. Given the number of vehicles parked on Ravenswood Court, we should wait until Ty Darran building has finished, which is scheduled for November/December. | All
to note |
| b. BH said that Fernlea Allotments told him that they had one from New Tredegar skips, who they would recommend. Cost was £290 for a “builder skip”, which is one up from the midi which should be ample for us. | All
to note |
| c. JK mentioned that when the Ravenswood flats were recently being renovated, yellow Hippo bags were used to remove kitchen furniture and fittings and he wondered if this would be a potential cheaper option. BH offered to investigate. | BH |

7. Wildflowers & mare’s tail.

BH will sow the rest of the clover seeds at the start of the next growing season when the remaining manure piles have been removed.	BH
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8. Floods/sewage.

Previous minutes refer to the potential for “dirty” water. DW said that Amie had a sample analysed and discovered that there was a relatively high level of lead and cadmium, i.e. a spade full estimated to contain the nicotine from half a cigarette. Obviously, this may have been the case before the floods; we’ll never know. DJ asked DW to send him some information so he can investigate further.	DW/DJ next meeting
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9. Scrap wood - AGAIN

People are responsible for burning their own scrap wood, and should not leave it to accumulate by the manure store. Whoever has left their scrap wood there can you please either put it back on your plot, burn it or take it to the tip. Thank you.	All Ongoing
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10. Fees.

BH collected the £25 fees from those present and said he would organise collecting the remainder hopefully by the weekend.	BH asap
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11. Bark mulch.

As previously agreed, BH gave £20 cash to MR in readiness to give to his supplier the next time he gets a load for us.	MR
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12. Weeds in the stream.

Reminder. PD said that there are still lots of weeds in the stream and asked members to ensure that any weeds they remove are not left on the bank, where they may be washed off or blown into the stream.	Plots 7-14
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13. AOB - Wheelie Bin.

JaS asked what the wheelie bin on site was for as it appeared to contain lots of plastic - soft & hard. Where did it come from and who empties it? Over to you.	?
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24. Date and time of next meeting.

The next meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday 28th January 2026 in the lounge of the Prince of Wales @ 7 p.m. - which isn’t half term. Happy new year!