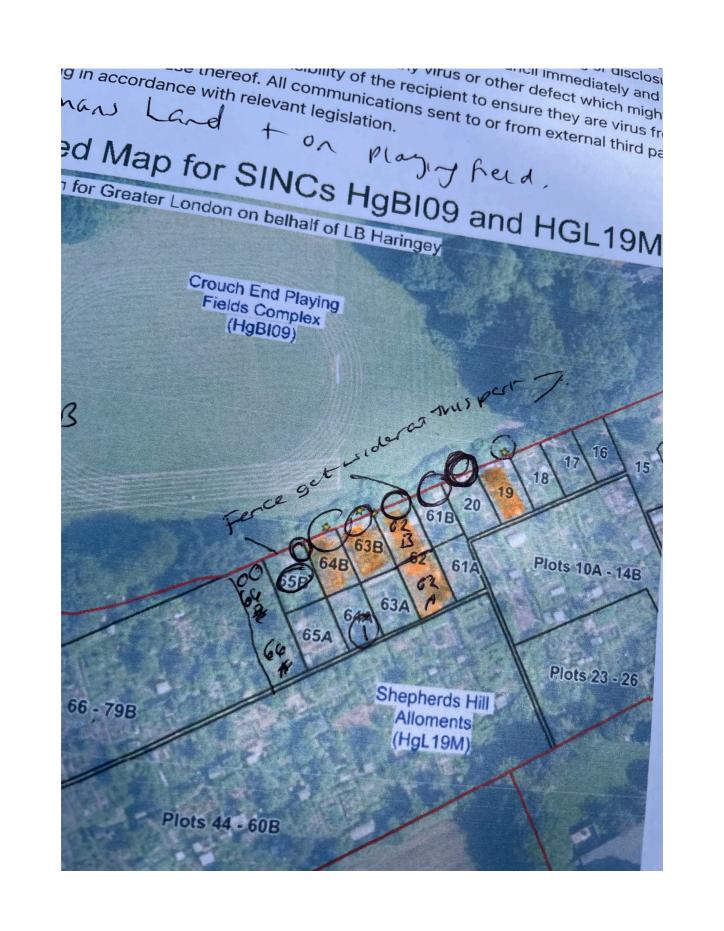
	Shepherd's Hill Allotment Association Committee Meeting Draft Minutes May 25th 2022	
	Present; Juliet Mann, Jill Russell, Julie Yogasundram, Stephen Cushnir, , Jo Sheehan, Garry Doyland, Annie Griffiths, Ian Potts	
	Apologies: Trevor Wyatt	
1.	Minutes of last meeting: accuracy	
	Approved.	
2.	Matters arising	
	JKW. Annabel had requested another site visit to look in more detail at where the JKW is on site. Julie and Jill met with Annabel and she produced the attached map of affected plots. Mostly the JKW is along the boundary and in the 'no man's land' between the two fences along the boundary, but there are also places where it is encroaching onto plots, particularly on 65B.	
	Jill had also put together all the emails in the info@ mailbox about JKW going back to 2017, showing that there had been a flurry of emails between the Council, the committee and tenants back then, but no follow up action had apparently been taken.	
	We discussed a number of concerns about how Haringey is handling the issue and it was agreed that Julie would write to Annabel, copying in Emi and Alex Fraser, expressing our concerns. Email to Annabel attached at the end of these minutes.	JY
	Annie to go back to Russell Miller, who we understood successfully removed JKW at Abney Park Cemetery, and specifically ask how it was disposed of there.	AG
3.	<u>Maintenance</u>	
	lan and Garry have successfully laid most of the pipe to deal with the drainage problems on the Wood Value track. One more push is required to complete the work.	
	The next task for a maintenance working party is to raise the height of the fence by the Queens Wood Gate. We have the material but haven't yet had a chance to complete the work.	IP/GD
	Juliet had shown the track quote to her nephew and he confirmed that it was a reasonable, good value quote. We agreed to go ahead with the work.	
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	The quote needs to be confirmed with the contractor as the date for accepting it has expired. We will ask the contractor to do the extra bit of track from the Wood Vale gate to the car park once on site.	IP
	Julie to chase with Emi about who is responsible for the track. And inform him that we are going ahead with the work unless we hear anything contrary from him.	JY
	Taps – Annie has spoken to Richard Gledhill, who knows a plumber who will walk around the site with him and get a quote to replace any taps that need replacing. Annie to contact Richard.	AG
	The bee plot is very overgrown – Julie to talk to Esther in the first instance to clarify understanding of who is responsible for maintenance of the plot. Perhaps it could be a task for a future maintenance working party.	JY
	Ian is going to get Richard the tree man to look at the willow that has died by the Barn.	IP
4.	Site inspections/probationers and lettings	
	The first site inspection in over two years was carried out earlier this month. Emi was very impressed with the overall state of plots. Two terminations have been issued by Emi (both being contested) and 4 nudge letters.	
	We currently have 5 new probationers.	
6.	Trading Shed	
	Stock keeps being replenished and then goes very quickly! Hard to keep up with demand.	
	We briefly discussed the state of the trading shed building and the need for us to think about rebuilding it. Ian pointed out that there are a number of options, e.g. reusing the concrete panels and trusses, applying for more lottery or other funding, and so on. We need a group to think about what the project is and draw up a proposal (see next item about asking for tenants to volunteer).	
7.	Communication	
	Annie circulated a draft email to all tenants asking for everyone to think about how they can contribute to the working life of the site and requesting volunteers. Jill and Jo agreed to work on a second draft. See attached. As well as emailing it, we could also print it as a brochure to give out to new tenants, have in the trading shed, at Barn lunches etc.	JR/JS

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	It is our responsibility as a committee to inform the Council of a tenant's death. We will inform Emi of a recent death.  Next newsletter:  • Remind tenants about keeping paths clear, and considerate use of power tools.  • Dates for the diary  • Summary of Gary's compost talk	AG
8.	Barn events and Future plans	
	8 <sup>th</sup> June café at the Barn – Juliet, Ian and Nicola 26 <sup>th</sup> June lunch – Juliet to lead discussion on what to do in July. She will also talk to Jenny about contributing a session on flower arranging 3 <sup>rd</sup> July maintenance working party 13 <sup>th</sup> July café at the Barn 24 <sup>th</sup> July Barn lunch	JM
	Julie to ask Esther about the idea of her doing a bee safari one Sunday.	JY
9.	Finance	
	Jo presented her financial report for the year ending 31 <sup>st</sup> March 22, which will be presented at the AGM in the autumn.	
	Carry over to next meeting – a discussion of the £2 annual sub for use of the trading shed.	All
	We had received a thank you from Harington for our donation from the plant sale. Jo stressed to committee members that for good practice accounting purposes, all SHA financial transactions must go through the SHA account.	
11.	AOB	
	None.	
12.	Date of next meeting	
	July 5 <sup>th</sup> at 6.00pm in the Barn. Chair?	
	Items to add to agenda: Bruno's email about saplings on SH gardens perimeter. Reminder under communications: securing netting to prevent birds getting trapped. Plot 14B	



## Sent 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2022

## Annabel,

Thank you for coming to visit the site the other day. It was very useful to walk round the site with you and establish the extent of the JKW and which plots were affected. We were very concerned about the situation on plot 65b where the JKW seems to have encroached significantly into the growing beds on the plot.

We discussed the situation at our committee meeting on the 25<sup>th of</sup> May and members expressed their concern at the ongoing and worsening situation.

I would like to highlight the specific concerns:

1. The committee was first alerted to the possibility of JKW on the adjacent open space in 2017. It is unclear whether there was any survey on the allotment side of the fence but Dick Thomlinson, the allotment officer at that time was aware.

Almost a year ago a survey was done on the allotment site by Haringey's contractor however it took almost 6 months before we were provided with a copy of that survey.

In spite of your emphasis on of how dire the situation is and how urgent it is that the JKW be dealt with and concern about spread we still do not have a plan about how to proceed. The concerned plot holders still need to be consulted and presented with options for dealing with this invasive species.

- 2. The JKW affects 3 distinct areas under different management the open space beyond our boundary fence, the no man's land between the two boundary fences and the plots on the allotment site. It is imperative that any plan involves all stakeholders/managers and that they are consulted at the same time. It would be pointless to deal with the areas separately.
- 3. There are issues to consider beyond the treatment of the JKW. The boundary between the playing field and the allotment site consists of a fence and a considerable area of scrub/brambles. Any disturbance of the brambles caused by clearing the JKW will lead to security issues for the allotment as the fence is low and easy to climb.
- 4. It is clear that on some plots sheds and/or paving will have to be moved to treat the JKW. Who will undertake this work and the subsequent restoration? Where JKW has encroached in to growing beds how is it proposed that is dealt with?
- 5. There seems to be some confusion within Haringey about how JKW should be dealt with. The following link from Haringey's own website seems to indicate that it is fine to cut down the JKW, bag it and that Haringey offers a collection service. <a href="https://www.haringey.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/refuse-and-recycling/garden-waste/japanese-knotweed">https://www.haringey.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/japanese-knotweed</a>

Overall, the committee feel that the JKW situation needs to be resolved as a matter of urgency. The longer the current situation continues with no plan, and therefore little that we can advise the affected plot holders, the more likely it is that the JKW will spread further into the allotments.

We would be grateful if you could provide us with a plan of action and proposals by the end of June so that we can begin to involve the affected plot holders.

## Regards

Julie on behalf of the SHAA Committee

CC Alex Fraser and Emi Mehmet