



TAMWORTH FARM ALLOTMENT SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 7.15pm, 2 March 2026

Attendees: Steffi Backhouse (SB), Elisabetta Costantini (EC), Julie Mallett (JM), Anthony Redpath (AR), Jo Rodgers (JR), Rob Rudfelt (RR), Craig Sisterson (CS), Bev Stansfield (BS), Kathleen Stevens (KS) & Katy Willison (KW)

Apologies, Minutes, and Actions

1. Minutes from February meeting agreed.
2. Actions updated since February meeting:
 - a. **Horseshoe shed:** nearly 100 paving stones collected for future patio work (around 80% of what is likely required). Can progress with timber deck demolition.
 - b. **TFAS social media:** JR+KS to set-up new Instagram account under a new name.
 - c. **Farm works/south end project:** AR reports a lottery grant application submitted for £10k (TFAS to supply £3k) to clear area and create compost, leaf-mould, and metal bays, wildflower meadows and rainwater collection. Decision in 12 weeks.
 - d. **Donation box:** KS confirms Food Kitchen will take donations.
 - e. **Waiting list:** to open again as usual, noting it on the website. Applicants to be asked how they heard.
 - f. **First community day:** went well. Good turnout to create dry hedges.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Site Maintenance Report

3. RR provided updated Site Maintenance Report by email to Committee members.
4. **Padlocks:** Committee agrees for RR to order two new padlocks.
5. **Site maintenance:** RR to discuss with Gary. Continuation of past contract for site maintenance. **Action:** JM to send new contract.

Treasurer's Report

6. KW presented report. Considerable reserves, finances in good shape.
7. **Compost:** Committee discussed buying in bagged compost/manure/soil for purchase and use by plot holders. Decided to require pre-orders and up-front payment so can order correct

amount and no storage required. **Action: JR & KS to liaise; KS to do cost and usefulness comparison between providers, and gauge plot holder interest.**

Data Retention Policy

8. KW provided current Data Retention Policy by email to Committee members. Committee agreed to continue policy as is with no changes.

Allotment Watch

9. AR provided paper by email to Committee members on possible Allotment Watch scheme.
10. It was decided to get feedback from plot holders in a broader, open consultation about their overall thoughts on site security and any concerns. **Action: AR to draft and circulate a survey (JM to collaborate) to be put to all plot holders**

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11. **School student visit:** KW reports local schoolteacher wants to bring small group of older children to Tamworth Farm site to visit and do work eg dry hedges on outside of horseshoe. Teacher to do H&S and Risk Assessment. **Action: KW to respond to schoolteacher and see if it can be arranged.**
12. **Allotment & Cemetery:** AR noted FOI request for provenance of allotment land relating to the cemetery has gained sufficient information to complete this task. All documents to be filed on Dropbox.
13. **Spring Community Day:** Committee keen to promote next community day, to be held on Spring Equinox (Sat 21 March). **Action: SB to make poster to share on WhatsApp etc**
14. **Mulberry tree:** possibility of purchasing a mulberry tree raised and discussed. **Action: RR and JR to investigate options and come back to Committee with proposal.**
15. **Bug Hotel:** agreed to develop a tree trunk on perimeter into bug hotel. **Action: KS to action**

ACTIONS IN MARCH

Item	Action	Name	Target date/ Completed
7 April 2025	Look at work needed to Horseshoe shed. Demolish rotting timber deck, clear area for new patio and mobility access. Source further pavers and plan out other required materials as needed.	RR/AR/CS	Ongoing
6 May	Prepare list of 15 minute jobs to do across the site to encourage plot holders on communal activities.	JM/ SB	Ongoing
10 Nov	Try and get Instagram account working	JR/ KS	Ongoing
1 Dec 2025	Source glass panes for shed	RR/KS	Continuing from Dec

1 Dec 2025	Sub-Committee to investigate and action works for south of Farm (compost, metal bays, shed, etc).	AR, RR, KW and KS	Ongoing
2 Feb 2026	Waiting list for new plot holders to be reopened on 1 April 2026; website updated with information	KW/JM	2 April 2026
2 Mar 2026	Publicising of second TFAS Community Day for 2026 to be held on Saturday, 21 March. KW to circulate info; SB to put poster in WhatsApp group.	KW/SB	16 Mar 2026
2 Mar 2026	Site maintenance contract: continuation of past contract to be discussed/agreed with Gary	RR/JM	7 Apr 2026
2 Mar 2026	Investigate plot holder interest in Committee arranging for pre-paid bagged compost delivery for plot holders to use on site.	KS/JR	7 Apr 2026
2 Mar 2026	Committee to conduct broad, open consultation with plot holders about thoughts on site security and any issues/concerns. AR to draft survey.	AR/JM	7 Apr 2026 (draft survey)
2 Mar 2026	Progress potential visit of local teacher and older school children to do work on dry hedges/council land outside allotments.	KW	7 April 2026
2 Mar 2026	Investigate options and costs for purchase of mulberry tree for communal area.	RR/JR	7 April 2026
2 Mar 2026	Develop tree trunk on perimeter into bug hotel	KS	April 2026

Committee meetings - Dates for the Diary 2026 (all on Monday unless otherwise stated)

Tuesday 7 April 2026

7 September 2026

Tuesday 5 May 2026

5 October 2026

1 June 2026

AGM Sunday 1 November 2026

6 July 2026

2 November 2026

3 August 2026 (may not be needed)

7 December 2026