



Meeting of CLAPHAM PARISH ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE (CPAC)

Monday 2nd February 2026 4.00pm

Attendees Cllr Ian Gaskin Chair

Cllr Tamsin Bromley-Rahike (TBR)

Cllr Eric Cooper (EC)

Carole Darnell (CD)

Maria Dunne (MD),

1. Apologies - none

2. Declarations of interest

Carole Darnell – plot holder

Eric Cooper – plot holder

Maria Dunne – plot holder

3. Open forum - no-one in attendance

4. Previous minutes approved plus previous month approved

5. Matters arising from previous meeting

5a. Volunteering request (EC)

Young person re- starts at the end of February – a plot holder has agreed to help find jobs/work to be done

5b. Central roadway (IG)

Hippo bag of Type 1 MOT delivered has started to be used. May need 2nd bag in near future. To be funded by CPC

£3000 planings/work spend has been approved by CPC– work currently out to tender. **Probable** start date March 2026, need to meet pre work – to decide where work is to start and extent of work plus Health & Safety issues .

Possible closure of site will be required during duration of work.

Action agreed – set pre work meeting date when weather improves

5c. Tree audit (EC/CD)

Association has a plan to deal with outsize trees identified on individual plots

Discussion at meeting – what is the CP plan for legacy trees? IG explained this would depend on budgeting restrictions and that no work can be done until next financial year and outside the bird nesting season. Suggested that the CP need to check the trees identified and not rely on Association guidance.

Acknowledged what happens with logs/branches when removed will affect price

Action -IG to contact contractors to inspect legacy trees and agree next steps

5d. Spending/budget plan

Budget plan 2026/2027 for £4,900 was presented at CPC meeting, includes low priority items and all quoted as maximum spend. £4,000 of this was approved

CAAC will meet to decide where savings are to be made. The CPAC will use month by month spending and remaining budget figures to ensure agreed budget is not exceeded. Template being designed to facilitate this.

5e. Kings Ditch signs

Insufficient money in current budget . Temporary signs being made by CAAC and used until 1st April 2026 when permanent signs purchased funded by Association.

6. Allotment Association Report (MD)

6.1 Trading hut opens 7th Feb until 25th Oct for new growing season. Stocked up and organised ready for customers. Plot holders and garden members being informed by email bulletin this week.

Volunteers used to staff shop as before, WhatsApp volunteer contact group being updated just to include those who are able to help this season.

Power tools workshop – 15th March Sip and paint workshop- 16th May

AGM Friday -17th April

6.2 Hens – welfare **issue was reported to CAAC**, MD has taken a look birds feet caked in mud and nothing to walk on except mud also rat infestation. Photographs taken.

Discussion at meeting – is this a CAA or CPC issue? Agreed Stage 1 and Stage 2 letters to be sent by CAAC , Stage 3 by CPC as other Tenancy Terms and Conditions breaches. Also livestock inspections need to be done regularly (suggest every 6 months)

Action

– arrange inspections. Look at NAS advice, check hen forms have been signed

6.3.Garden membership price staying at £2.00 will include all workshops

6.4 Plot dispute update – Now settled and outstanding invoice paid

Action – Letter to be sent by IG to both parties.

6.5 Vandalism – Recent episode of sheds broken into at North end. Sheds doors forced open, but nothing stolen. Access routes into the site cannot be identified. Unsure time of day that vandalism occurred? before or after perimeter gates locked. Persons locking gates at dusk need to take care as vandals may be on site at that time

6.6 Plot management (CD)

No plots let since last meeting – 10 people waiting for plots. All applicants have been acknowledged and informed of wait. Plot clearance, plot inspections and plot clearance planned to recommence this month, weather permitting

Currently 31 vacant plots awaiting clearance, priority assigned. Once these are done unless major tree clearance is done at far North end this will be the final number of possible plots.

1 eviction in process – Eviction letter to be sent mid-February Plot holder has left area without notifying Association so will be deemed to no longer require plot.

2 new(ish) plot holders Sept 2025 have not paid their plot rent despite initial invoice and 2 reminders – have been issued with Stage 1 letters.

7. Parish Council report (IG)

Defib is installed and ready, not activated because of rain collecting and blocking access. Waiting for Borough council to clear drains now and on a regular 3 monthly rota.

Precept approved by CPC

Oasis pool new 99year lease agreed with David Lloyd (private leisure company)

New steering group being formed for Millennium Park revamp

8.Site and buildings maintenance –

Perimeter gates repair work done by CPC maintenance team – to be funded by the CPC

Trading hut door frame needs to be replaced as rotting and could be security weakness. CAAC will arrange and fund this

The meeting closed at 6.00pm

Date of next meeting – Monday 2nd March 2026

Signed as a true reflection of the meeting:

Signed	<i>Chair</i>
Dated	2 nd March 2026