



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

67 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1SP - Tel: 01702 716288
council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Chairman: Cllr Carole Mulroney
Vice Chairman: Cllr Caroline Parker
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



The next meeting of the **Allotments Committee** will be held on **Wednesday 16th May 2012 at 67 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, at 8.00pm**, when it is hoped to transact the following business:

Agenda

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS
2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN
3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
4. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
5. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF 21st March 2012 and 9th May 2012
6. TO NOMINATE WORKING PARTIES
 - a) **Infrastructure Working Party**, currently Cllrs. Jerry Holden, Pat Holden, one vacancy, plus one representative from each Allotment Society, MDAS and LOSALGA
 - b) **Disputes Working Party**, currently Chairman and Vice Chairman of Allotments Committee with Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council as alternatives in case of unavailability or involvement in the dispute.
7. RULES REMINDERS: PLOT NUMBERING, USE OF WATER TANKS AND SPEED LIMIT ON THE ALLOTMENTS.
8. DUMPING OF ASBESTOS ON THE SITE
9. USE OF CAR TYRES
10. POSSIBLE IMPOSITION OF JOINING FEE OR DEPOSIT
11. WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SITE REPRESENTATIVES ON ITEMS NOT COVERED ABOVE
 - a) Marshall Close
 - b) Leigh Allotments (Appendix 1)
 - c) Manchester Drive (Appendix 1)
 - d) Orchard
12. BUDGET – Report 2046/Allot – Final Outturn (Appendix 2)
13. CORRESPONDENCE
14. MOTION TO EXCLUDE PUBLIC – The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted in item 11 the public and press be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw (SO.1(c)) - (staffing)
15. TO CONSIDER REQUEST OF ALLOTMENTS MAINTENANCE OFFICER FOR ADDITIONAL HOURS AND REVIEW OF VAN ALLOWANCE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO PERSONNEL SUB-COMMITTEE

There is concern that the Council is expecting a level of workload that is unachievable, given that the post is part time. Therefore there is a request that the hours be reviewed, because without extra hours it will not be possible to continue to maintain the high standards that are expected. Put simply, the number of plots on the allotments has increased by at least 40% which means that the workload has increased considerably, but the hours have not kept pace with this.

In addition, extra work has been incurred in maintaining the skate park but again, it has not been established how this is can be fitted in with the current number of hours.

The van allowance was set in 2008 as part of a package, but due to inflation, costs have risen over the ensuing years and the Committee are asked to consider an appropriate increase in the allowance.



Paul Beckerson
Town Clerk
10th May 2012

Any member who is unable to attend the meeting should send their apologies before the meeting.

LEIGH ALLOTMENTS REPORT

Roads: The roads on the Leigh Allotments side have been extremely muddy and we have had to block them off. This seems to be working well though our car park has been extremely crowded even in these wet conditions.

Concern: There is a Suspicion of rat poison is being used in the area with rats and some foxes dying on pathways. Can we remind people about not laying this in public places especially with the number of children at the allotments.

Wilderness area: The cutting back of the vegetation to allow for more access to the wildlife area by insects, animals and allow more plants to grow seems to be paying off with a mixture of plants coming though. Hopefully careful management of this area will yield good benefits for bio diversity.

Jubilee Garden Party: We are having a garden party on Sunday 3rd of June at our "Greenhouse". All are welcome!

Manchester Drive Allotments Society

Chairman: Martin Scott, 75 Crescent Road, Leigh-on-Sea. SS9 2PG. Tel. 01702 474320
Secretary: Ashley Hitchcock, 40 Park Road, Westcliff-on-Sea. SS0 7PQ.

REPORT TO LTC ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE, 17th May 2012

1. Asbestos and Rubbish

The asbestos collected along the north boundary has now been cleared from the site. Additional bags of asbestos are awaiting disposal. There are also some asbestos sheets and gutters which were incorporated into sheds and compost bin structures many years ago. MDAS will arrange with plot holders to have these removed.

The rest of the rubbish collected along the north boundary still awaits removal by grab lorry. Vegetation in that area is re-growing vigorously. It is beginning to cover the rubbish and make access along the boundary, once again, difficult. Can a grab lorry be arranged and Bob be instructed to keep a strip along the fence line clear?

2. Water tanks

Water tanks or taps are needed at the top of the site to service the new plots. If funding is difficult, can the rents from the new plots be used to fund the water. Repairs to the tank opposite plot 5 are also needed.

3. Roads

Bark chippings placed on some of the upper roads have contributed to their deterioration from vehicle access during the recent wet weather. No further chippings should be spread on any roads used by vehicles.

4. Termination of tenancies

The committee is requested to reconsider the proposed procedures for the undisputed termination of tenancies when plots have been left uncultivated, to allow the existing practice to continue.

5. The padlock and chain to the Randolph Close gate were recently removed and youths were found by the police on the site. No damage or theft has been reported. The padlock and chain has now been replaced.

Report by
Martin Scott, Chairman, MDAS

Heading	2010/11 B/F	Income	Income to Date	Expenditure	Spend to Date	Commitments	Balance	% Spent
Rents								
Manchester Drive		7,767	7956.87				-189.87	102.44
Leigh		3,864	3431.50				432.5	88.81
Marshall Close		440	348.80				91.2	79.27
Grants			5115.00					
MDAS Commission				689				
Affiliations				0	55.00		-55.00	
Plot clearance				0	0.00		0.00	
Rubbish clearance				1,150	1,600.00		-450.00	139.13
Equipment			737.44	500	862.65		374.79	69.71
Water Rates				3,860	3,610.42		249.58	93.53
Staff Costs				9,300	9,517.98		-217.98	102.34
Maintenance				250	641.91	20.00	-411.91	256.76
Miscellaneous				300	48.00		252.00	16.00
Training				100	0.00		100.00	0.00
Vehicle				750	737.44		12.56	98.33
Capital improvements*	2,565			2,000	9,705.12		-5,140.12	212.60
Keys			150.00	0	197.50		-197.5	
Totals		12,071	17739.61	18,899	26976.02			142.74
Nett cost (exp - inc)		6,828			9236.41			

£800 from reserves
Insurance Claim

Hedging,
fencing, road works

Revenue
Capital*

4,828
2,000

4,646.29
4,590.12