



# Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

67 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1SP - Tel: 01702 716288  
[council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk) [www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk](http://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 18<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at 67 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, at 7.30pm**, when it is hoped to transact the following business:

## Agenda

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS
2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS
4. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF 16<sup>th</sup> May 2012
5. THE KEEPING OF HEN AND RABBITS - Section 12 of the Allotments Act 1950 (Cllr Mark Bromfield)
6. SETTING UP OF WORKING GROUP TO CONSIDER CRITERIA FOR DEPOSIT SCHEME
7. WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SITE REPRESENTATIVES ON ITEMS NOT COVERED ABOVE
  - a) Marshall Close (Appendix 1)
  - b) Leigh Allotments (Appendix 1)
  - c) Manchester Drive (Appendix 1)
  - d) Orchard (Appendix 1)
8. BUDGET – Report 2078/Allot (Appendix 2)
9. CORRESPONDENCE

Paul Beckerson  
Town Clerk  
12<sup>th</sup> July 2012

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

## Marshall Close

A specific weed killer called 'curtail' has been employed to tackle the proliferation of 'mayor's tail'.

There have been several occurrences of rubbish being deposited near the entrance sometimes for as long as a week prior to removal.

The continual wet weather has made maintaining plots in a good condition difficult.

Ann Scobie 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012

## Leigh Allotments Report

Social event,

Leigh Allotments had a successful BBQ at the GREENHOUSE with an excellent turn out despite the weather. Thank you to Barbara Ashdown and Audrey Sheehy once again.

Horrible weather,

Wet weather has been taking its toll on the growing season but there continues to be a lot of hard work going into the allotments

Scalping's for the roads,

Would the Council be willing to invest money into improving the roads on the Leigh Allotments if Leigh Allotments matched the funds? Initial ideas are to provide £200 if the council could match.

Holes on the Leigh Site,

Can we look to fill in the holes on the Leigh Allotment as a matter of urgency? Currently we have the hole where the leak has been fixed and the hole made for the posts both of which are a trip hazard.

The gate and new cement drive,

The new cement drive is working well with little amount of water collecting despite the heavy rains. A very welcome addition as we open the gates

The fences to either side of the gate,

The fences are deteriorating either side of the Leigh gate as people attempt to bi-pass the new gate. Are we any closer to a resolution on the access for the houses and what we can do at this point?

# Manchester Drive Allotments Society

### Manchester Drive Allotments Report, 18th July 2012

1. **Allotments Open Day, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.** Preparations are in hand and the event will be publicised in the local press and on banners. All members of the Council's Allotments Committee (and the other councillors) would be very welcome.
2. **Allotments Competition.** For the third year running MDAS has won Southend Council's 'Best Society Cup' in their Allotments Competition. Individual plots on the site came 1<sup>st</sup> (plot 48) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (plot 146) in the 10 rod category, 2<sup>nd</sup> (plot 73b) in the 5 rod category and 1<sup>st</sup> (plot 219a) in the new 5 rod category.

3. **Deposits for new lettings.** Whilst there may be merit in principle, our committee has expressed serious misgivings on the size of deposit agreed at the last Allotments Committee and on the practicalities of introducing such a scheme without clear criteria for managing it. The Committee is therefore requested to set up a small working group of Councillors and representatives from the Societies to recommend criteria for managing it that are fair and equitable and do not prejudice new lettings.

Martin Scott  
Chairman, Manchester Drive Allotments Society

## ***Leigh Allotments Orchard Group***

### **Orchard Report, July 2012**

Rain has again been the main ingredient of orchard activity, resulting in rapid and lush growth of grass. It makes a change from the usual problems in recent summers of getting enough water to the trees. The lush grass growth is threatening to engulf the trees so a work party has been scheduled for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> July to clear grass from around the trees.

As feared in the last report the cold, wet spring has badly affected pollination of fruit blossom with the result that many of our trees have little or no fruit and even the regular heavy croppers such as *Discovery* are carrying greatly reduced crops. This is repeated across much of the country; particularly it seems in the East Anglian region, which is very bad news for commercial orchards.

Butterflies too have not been helped by the weather and the marbled white has yet to be seen on our orchard this year.

David Hammond  
8 July 2012

Heading	2011/12 B/F	Income	Income to Date	Expenditure	Spend to Date	Commitments	Balance	% Spent
Rents								
Manchester Drive		7,776	0.00				7776	0.00
Leigh		3,916	17.50				3898.5	0.45
Marshall Close		410	0.00				410	0.00
Grants			0.00					
MDAS Commission				690				
Affiliations				0	0.00		0.00	
Plot clearance				500	0.00		500.00	
Rubbish clearance				650	155.32		494.68	23.90
Equipment				500	0.00		500.00	0.00
Water Rates				3,860	1,805.87		2,054.13	46.78
Staff Costs				13,319	1,719.31		11,599.69	12.91
Protective Clothing				0	49.99		-49.99	
Maintenance				400	145.88		254.12	36.47
Miscellaneous				150	0.00		150.00	0.00
Training				100	0.00		100.00	0.00
Vehicle				750	419.58		330.42	55.94
Capital improvements*				2,500	0.00		2,500.00	0.00
Keys			20.00	0	15.00		-15	
<b>Totals</b>		<b>12,102</b>	<b>37.50</b>	<b>23,419</b>	<b>4310.95</b>			<b>18.41</b>
Nett cost (exp - inc)		11,317			4273.45			
Revenue		8,817			4,273.45			
Capital*		2,500			0.00			