



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

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Chairman: Cllr. Pat Holden
Vice Chairman: Cllr. Carole Mulroney
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 28th JULY 2010 AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 67 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Jean Rowswell (Chairman), Pat Holden, Carole Mulroney, John Wren, plus Ron Bates, David Hammond, John Longhurst, Ann Scobie and Tony Wilson

In attendance: Paul Beckerson, Town Clerk
Paul Lawrence and other Plot Holders

The meeting opened at 8.00pm

23. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed members and the public to the meeting.

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Mrs Elaine Crystall, Jerry Holden and Patsy Ryan

25. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllr Pat Holden declared a personal interest as a plot holder on the Manchester Drive site.

26. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the meeting of 23rd June 2010 were agreed and signed by the Chairman with the removal of the word "competitions" from minute 19 (c).

27. QUOTATIONS FOR PERIMETER FENCE

The Town Clerk circulated a sheet containing the three quotes he had received to date, two of which were similar and one which was more expensive. Now that an indication of cost is available the Town Clerk together with both Societies will investigate what funding opportunities there are and report back to the next meeting in September.

28. REMOVAL OF DEAD HAWTHORN TREE MARSHALL CLOSE SITE

The committee were presented with two options:

- To remove the tree from the Brook and leave the logs on site as dead wood habitat is £60.
- To remove the tree and all arisings is £170.

It was **RESOLVED: to accept the quote in the sum of £60 and to consult with plot holders as to the positioning of the logs.**

29. REPLACEMENT OF LOCK LEIGH SITE

Due to the failure of the padlock on the gate it has been replaced with a spare lock which has been welded onto the shackle. There have been some problems with the

use of the existing keys; there are now some new keys in the office for plot holders who experience this problem.

30. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MR M BOND – RE: ARSON ATTACK ON SHED (MDA)

Members noted the letter from Mr Bond and the reply that had been sent by MDAS addressing the various issues, mainly security.

31. REPORTS FROM SITE REPRESENTATIVES ON ITEMS NOT COVERED ABOVE

a) Marshall Close

- Ann Scobie reported that a shed had been erected on the site and to whether this was permissible. The Town Clerk would look into the terms and conditions of the tenancy agreements to see if there were any special clauses applicable to this site.

b) Leigh

- John Longhurst reported that there had been a handbag theft and this had been reported to the Police. There had been a lot of youths trespassing on the site some of whom he had requested to leave. There were still some teething problems with the new lock with some keys not working. There had been some new keys cut and the Town Clerk would oil the lock tomorrow to ease it.
- Ron Bates reported on the meeting with SBC planning officers where they were requesting further information; he was awaiting the detail. One request was written confirmation LOSALGA's status on the site, the Town Clerk would sort this out.
- The society was holding a Bar-BQ on the 15th August and all were invited to attend.

c) Manchester Drive

- Martin Scott had provided a written report which had been circulated to members. Tony Wilson said they had a leak in the Gent's Toilet and thought they would have to get professional assistance. The Town Clerk undertook to investigate it tomorrow when he is on site.
- The waiting list of 25 was down to 18 and 12 letters to cultivate had been sent out. There was a possibility that there would be a further 8 plots to let.
- Where new plots have been reclaimed at the northern end there was a lack of access to water, this would have to be assessed.
- A new wash basin and sink had been installed in the coffee shop to improve hygiene.
- It was requested that the dates of the bonfires be confirmed. The Town Clerk would email confirmation.

d) Orchard

- David Hammond stated that there were a lot of apples this year. A working party had cleared the grass from around the trees and some watering had taken place. In September a major grass cutting exercise would be undertaken across the whole orchard.
- The Police Security Event with Mike Holland had been a great success with many items of equipment being tagged.

32.BUDGET

The budget report 1770/Allot was noted.

33.CORRESPONDENCE

There was no further correspondence.

The meeting closed at 8.49pm