



# 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 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY 2011 AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 67 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Jean Rowswell (Chairman), Elaine Crystall, Jerry Holden, Pat Holden, Paul Lawrence, Carole Mulroney, Patsy Ryan, John Wren, plus Ron Bates, David Hammond, Tony Wilson and John Longhurst.

In attendance: Paul Beckerson, (Town Clerk)  
Gerald & Sheila Brazier, Barbara Ashdown

### ***The meeting opened at 8.00pm***

#### 77. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed members and the public to the meeting.

#### 78. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Anne Scobie

#### 79. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllrs Jerry and Pat Holden and Paul Lawrence declared a personal interest as plot holders on the Manchester Drive site.

#### 80. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2011 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### 81. USE OF ANGLIA WATER BUILDING BY LTC

Members debated various alternatives with regards the storage of the Town Council's equipment and the use of the Anglia Water building. Tony Wilson stated that from MDAS's point of view it would be difficult to split the building to accommodate the Town Council's requirements. He went on to say that the building had been extended to replace the wooden building formally used by MDAS. It was suggested that an additional container placed at that end of the site might satisfy the Council's needs. Cllr Jerry Holden would not like to see any further proliferation of buildings on that part of the site reducing parking spaces.

The committee **RESOLVED to set up a small Working Party consisting of the Chairman, Cllr Pat Holden, the Town Clerk and the Allotments Maintenance Officer to meet on site with representatives of MDAS to discuss an equitable solution.**

#### 82. PLANNING PERMISSION FOR MDAS CONTAINER

MDAS had submitted an application some months ago. SBC had requested an accurate site plan MDAS would be providing this shortly.

#### 83. APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION – PERIMETER FENCE

This had been brought to the committee to outline the likely costs. Planning application fees of this sort were based on the Hectares of the site which in this case was 6.97 Hectares and are charged at £170 for each 0.1 Hectares £11,849 but there is a maximum charge of £1,690. Town and Parish Councils receive a 50% discount so that will make the fee £845.

The committee asked the Town Clerk to negotiate with SBC to see if the fees could be reduced.

There was a suggestion that if just a part of the fence was to be done that it may be better to secure the southern boundary of the Leigh Site rather than Randolph Close. This would be looked into and costings calculated.

84. SITE REPRESENTATIVES - WRITTEN REPORTS

It was proposed that in future all site representatives' reports should be in writing prior to the meeting to enable them to be included on the agenda.

The committee **RESOLVED that in future written reports would be submitted to the Town Clerk for inclusion on the agenda by the Monday of the week before the meeting.**

85. REQUEST FOR A SKIP AT MARSHALL CLOSE

A plot holder had requested this to remove rubbish from the site. After some discussion the committee asked that the Allotments Maintenance Officer be asked to check the site to assess the amount and to check that the tree in the Brook had been cut up by SBC.

86. REPORTS FROM SITE REPRESENTATIVES ON ITEMS NOT COVERED ABOVE

a) Marshall Close

- None

b) Leigh

- John Longhurst reported on the Police meeting held at the Leigh Community Centre. The Police identified the main problems as routes through the allotments, vandalism, and minor theft with some incidents of serious crime. They have suggested that the securing of the southern boundary be given priority especially in inadequacy of the Leigh Site gates. The potato day had been a success despite the rain.

c) Manchester Drive

- Tony Wilson reported that the waiting list had decreased from 32 down to 6. Several existing members had retired with 6 defaulting on payment. They have taken the opportunity to create more starter plots. There were still difficulties at the northern end due to anti-social behaviour so at the moment they were not letting any plots in that area. There had been 39 acts of vandalism in Nov and Dec 2010. They were having a plant and seed day on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> March. There would shortly be a delivery of cockle shells for the bottom track and they would like to have a bonfire day in the spring.

d) Orchard

- David Hammond said they had planted 3 new trees including one of a new Essex variety.

87. BUDGET

The budget report 1849/Allot was noted. (Appendix 1)

88. CORRESPONDENCE

There had been a letter re the ruling disallowing the use of hoses. The committee wished to stick to rule and regretted there could be no exceptions.

***The meeting closed at 9.10pm***

Heading	2009/10 B/F	Income	Income to Date	Expenditure	Spend to Date	Balance	% Spent	
Rents								
Manchester Drive		5600	5317.25			282.75	94.95	
Leigh		2350	2890.00			-540	122.98	
Marshall Close		320	255.50			64.5	79.84	
Affiliations				0	55.00	-55.00		
Plot clearance				500		500.00	0.00	
Rubbish clearance				650	360.00	290.00	55.38	
Equipment				500	1,881.16	-1,381.16	376.23	Insurance Claim
Water Rates				3100	2,962.34	137.66	95.56	
Staff Costs				9118	7,596.47	1,521.53	83.31	
Maintenance				250	431.61	-181.61	172.64	
Miscellaneous				300	499.94	-199.94	166.65	
Training				100		100.00	0.00	
Vehicle				750	674.13	75.87	89.88	
Open Day Acc Fund	1306		514.70	0	1,256.16	564.54	96.18	
Capital improvements*				2000		2,000.00	0.00	Hedging, fencing, roadways etc.
Keys			175.00	0	113.63	-113.63		
<b>Totals</b>		<b>8270</b>	<b>8637.75</b>	<b>17268</b>	<b>15830.44</b>		<b>91.68</b>	
Nett cost (exp - inc)		8998			7192.69			

Revenue  
Capital\*

5,936.53