



Leigh-on-Sea Town Council

71-73 Elm Road, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 1SP - Tel: 01702 716288
council@leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk www.leighonseatowncouncil.gov.uk

Chairman: Cllr. Richard Herbert
Vice Chairman: Cllr. Syrie Cox
Town Clerk: Paul Beckerson



MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2014 AT THE LEIGH COMMUNITY CENTRE, 71-73 ELM ROAD, LEIGH-ON-SEA

Present: Cllrs: Paul Lawrence (Chairman), Margaret Cotgrove, Syrie Cox, Donald Fraser, Jerry Holden and Pat Holden

Allotment representatives: Ron Bates, Alan Ashdown (LA), David Hammond (Orchard), Sheila Brazier (MDAS), Anne Scobie (MC)

In attendance: Cllr Mark Bromfield, Paul Beckerson (Town Clerk), Barbara Ashdown and one member of the public.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

32. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and in particular Cllr Margaret Cotgrove who has re-joined the Committee. There had been some incidents where vegetables and fruit has been picked from plots without the permission of the tenant. It was considered that some posters could be put up making it clear that the tenant must have given explicit permission. The Chairman congratulated MDAS on winning the Allotment Cup again.

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Richard Herbert and Jane Ward

34. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Cllrs Jerry Holden, Pat Holden and Paul Lawrence each declared a non-pecuniary interest as plot holders on the Manchester Drive site and ordinary members of MDAS and LOSALGA.

35. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the meetings of 16th July 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

36. CONSTRUCTION OF RAISED ALLOTMENT BED FOR DISABLED USE – LEIGH SITE

The Committee discussed the costings and felt there may be other costs such as soil at £50 /m²

There was a proposal: Proposed Cllr Syrie Cox; seconded Cllr Jerry Holden.

That the Infrastructure Working Party come forward with a firm priced proposal and to submit a bid to F&GPC to the Capital Projects Fund to build a raised bed as indicated in the report on a site to be decided.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to agree the proposal.

37. CONTRACTOR'S HEDGE CUT

The Committee **RESOLVED** to keep to one cut per annum.

38. BUDGET & RENTS FOR 2015/16 (Appendices 1 & 2 to the agenda)

The Committee discussed at some lengths the options presented to them. It was decided to take the rents first.

It was proposed that the rents be increased as indicated in the report.

Proposed Cllr Syrie Cox; seconded Cllr Margaret Cotgrove.

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** to Council that the rents be increased by:

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|-------|
| Full Plot Non Discounted: | £10.00 | Full Plot Discounted: | £5.00 |
| Half Plot Non Discounted: | £5.00 | Half Plot Discounted: | £2.50 |
| Starter Plot Non Discounted: | £3.50 | Starter Plot Discounted: | £1.50 |

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** the budget attached as Appendix 1 to F&GPC for approval.

39. PLANTING OF A HEDGE ADJACENT TO THE FENCE ON THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY

The Committee **RESOLVED** not to proceed with the hedge planting at this time and to get an estimate to erect a 4m chain link fence to run for a distance of 30m.

40. TREE CUTTING – Report 2406/HS (Appendix 3 to the agenda)

The Committee **RESOLVED** to get advice from the SBC Arboriculturist and to get a cost for any rectification work if needed and to charge the cost of the work to the tenant. Proposed Cllr Jerry Holden; seconded Cllr Syrie Cox.

41. WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SITE REPRESENTATIVES (Appendix 4 to the agenda)

Marshall Close **noted**. A further inspection of the trees by the Brook had been undertaken and the following work was required, coppice a willow tree down to the ground and to remove the top and side growth from a cherry tree.

The Committee **RESOLVED** to get a quotation for the work and to delegate any action to the Town Clerk, in the event of the work costing more than is available in the Maintenance Budget that the shortfall should be a virement from the Waste Clearance Budget.

Leigh Allotments, **noted**.

MDAS Report

MDAS were asked to bring a quotation for the water supply for the new tanks to the next meeting. They gave notice that they were going to hold an Apple Day on the 25th October 2014.

The top track had not been reinstated as previously been agreed, Sheila Brazier would relay the urgency back to her committee.

MDAS Report **noted**.

Orchard Report **noted**.

42. BUDGET – Report 2403/Allot 9th September 2014 (Appendix 5 to the agenda)

Members **noted** the report.

43. CORRESPONDENCE

There was none.

The meeting closed at 9.44pm

Sheet 4

2nd draft of allotments budget 2015/16 17-09-14

| Heading | B/F 2014/15 | Income | Expenditure |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------|-------------|
| Rents | | | |
| Manchester Drive | | 7,412 | |
| Leigh | | 3,222 | |
| Marshall Close | | 431 | |
| MDAS Commission | | | 926 |
| Plot clearance | | | |
| Rubbish clearance | | | |
| Equipment | | | |
| Water Rates | | 1,810 | 2,700 |
| Staff Costs | | | 5,250 |
| Maintenance | | | 1,000 |
| Miscellaneous | | | 60 |
| Training | | | |
| Vehicle | | | |
| Hedge Cutting | | | 1,000 |
| Capital improvements* | | | 2,500 |
| Grass Cutting | | | 0 |
| Keys | | | 0 |
| MDAS Grant | | | 3,000 |
| LA Grant | | | 1,600 |
| MC Grant | | | 500 |
| Totals | | £12,875 | £18,536 |
| Nett cost (exp - inc) | | £5,661 | |