

## **ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**A Meeting of the Allotments Committee was held in the Town Hall, Stokesley on Tuesday 29 October 2019 commencing at 7 pm**

### **Allotment Committee Membership**

Cllrs Carol Lewis, David Oxley, Graham Sowerby and Andy Wake.  
Allotments Representative – Jen Wheildon.

**Present:** Cllrs Carol Lewis (Chairman), Bryn Griffiths (attending on behalf of Cllr Sowerby) and Andy Wake.

Jen Wheildon – Allotments Representative and Julie McLuckie – Town Clerk

### **1/29/10/19 NOTICE OF MEETING**

The notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

### **2/29/10/19 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

None present.

### **3/29/10/19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**RESOLVED** to receive and accept the apologies for absence from Cllr David Oxley and Graham Sowerby.

### **4/29/10/19 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr Lewis as Chairman.

### **5/29/10/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS IN ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None declared.

### **6/29/10/19 TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RESOLVED** that the current terms of reference remain valid and correct.

### **7/29/10/19 MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 25 APRIL 2019**

**RESOLVED** that the minutes from the meeting held on the 25 April 2019 be agreed and it was confirmed that all the actions have been completed.

### **8/29/10/19 TO RECEIVE THE FEEDBACK FROM THE TENANTS NIGHT HELD ON 26 SEPTEMBER 2019**

- a. Gate Security – Non-Compliance with the Agreement – Several tenants expressed their concerns regarding the gate been left stood open.

**RESOLVED** to issue a reminder to all allotment tenants that they must lock the gate when entering and leaving the site even if they are only going to be

on site for a few minutes and that this is part of their tenancy agreement and must be adhered to.

- b. Mentoring – **RESOLVED** to ask for volunteers who would like to offer to become mentors through the next newsletter. Cllr Lewis would keep a record of those who have confirmed they would like to be involved and be the liaison point between new tenants and the mentors and an invitation will also be placed in the notice board.
- c. Social Contacts with other Allotments – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would contact other local allotments co-ordinators to see if they would be interested in organising joint social events. The Clerk would also contact the Great Ayton Allotments Society to see if there were any opportunities for Stokesley Tenants to join.
- d. Vacant plots – Cllr Lewis advised that there are currently two vacant plots which will require additional work to ensure that when they are handed over, they are workable. **RESOLVED** that current tenants be asked to volunteer and join forces on an agreed day to reinstate the challenging gardens and turn this into a social event with breakfast butties etc been provided. The new tenant should also be asked to attend so they have an opportunity meet fellow allotment holders.

#### **9/29/10/19 TO REVIEW EVENTS AND PROGRESS FROM 2019/20**

- a. Open Gardens – had once again proved to be very well supported despite the very wet weather. **RESOLVED** to be involved again in future years.
- b. Broadacres and our Track – the Allotment Caretaker has continued to infill the potholes along our track throughout the year. However, there would now be a requirement to lay some road stones. **RESOLVED** to arrange for proper road stones to be laid and that the Clerk would contact Broadacres to ask them to address their track and repair the potholes.
- c. Spraying – **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would ask the contractor to spray in September rather than October in the future and Cllr Lewis would arrange to meet with him to agree the areas to be sprayed.
- d. Hedgerows – **RESOLVED** that the hedgerows which form mutual boundaries with the housing estates should be included in the tree and hedges budget and added to the future forward maintenance schedule.

#### **10/29/10/19 FORWARD PLAN FOR 2020/21**

- a. Lady Hullocks Rent Increase – **RESOLVED** to receive the notice from Lady Hullocks Trust that the rent would increase from next April to £950 per annum. Cllr Lewis would discuss the level of future increases with the Trust to try and agree a position where the increases are limited to a sensible

amount such as this one and that they would not increase by a large amount in the future. Cllr Lewis would also advise Lady Hullocks Trust that the Town Council would welcome the opportunity to share information with the Trust regarding allotment rent charges etc prior to them considering rent increases in the future.

- b. Rent Reviews and Allotment Charges – **RESOLVED** to increase the allotment rents by £1 in January 2021. Notice of the increase would be provided to allotment tenants at the rent night in January 2020.
- c. Allotment Rent Night – **RESOLVED** to host the Allotments Rent Night on Monday 20 January 2020.

**11/29/10/19 BUDGET REQUIREMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020/21**

**RESOLVED** to request that the budget requirements for 2020/21 be:

- Allotments Rent - £950
- Allotments Water - £200
- Allotments Maintenance - £1500.

The meeting closed at 7.55 pm.

Signed .....

Date .....