

**WESTON-SUPER-MARE TOWN COUNCIL
NOTES OF THE ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT
SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT GROVE HOUSE ON 15th MARCH 2017**

Meeting Commenced: 7.00 pm

Meeting Concluded: 8.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Bailey (Chairman), Ray Armstrong, Robert Cleland, Len Purnell, Richard Tucker and Clive Webb. Non-Voting cop-opted members: George Raines, (Chairman of the Allotment Club) and allotment representatives: Clive Wall (Rectors Way) and Mike Tansley (Redpits).

IN ATTENDANCE: Malcolm Nicholson (Town Clerk) and Jennifer Lawley (Committee Officer)

301.	<p>Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes</p> <p>Apologies were received from Kevin Pearse, Mike Phillips, Jenny Nichols, Theresa Donald, Rob Thurston and Councillor Richard Tucker.</p>
302.	<p>Declarations of interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>
303.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th December 2016 had been previously circulated with the agenda.</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting stated that Clive Wall was Treasurer but he was in fact Vice-Chairman of the Allotments Club.</p> <p>PROPOSED BY: Councillor Ray Armstrong SECONDED BY: Councillor Robert Cleland</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the amendment be noted and the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.</p>
304.	<p>Allotments update</p> <p>Tree Inspections:</p> <p>Members were advised of the tree management regime being undertaken which was necessary for Health and Safety reasons. It was reported that there had been issues with a fallen branch from an Elber tree at Kewstoke allotments.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That a tree inspection report be made available at a future Allotment Management Sub-Committee meeting. 2. That members be updated on the condition of the Elber tree at the next meeting when Mike Phillips, the allotment representative for Kewstoke, is in attendance.

	<p>Old Mill Way:</p> <p>The ten Poplar trees which were now planted, were being watered and currently stood at a height of 9ft. Poplars grew very quickly. The trees had been planted to deter children from throwing stones on the sheds. The site representative although pleased with the newly planted Poplar trees hoped that more trees could be sourced and planted at the allotment. However, the planting season was now past for this year but more trees for next year could be a consideration. In response to the question of why Leylandii trees had not been chosen, members were advised about height restrictions.</p> <p>Information was not available regarding engineer costs in addressing the flooding. During debate it was considered to be just an occupational hazard which not only happened at Old Mill Way but at other sites.</p> <p>The remaining S106 funding stood at £16,000. This funding was for providing water for Old Mill Way and not intended for payment of engineer works.</p> <p>Debate ensued on accessibility to allotment sites by the Emergency Services. The Allotment Club Chairman advised that keys to all allotment sites had been circulated to the ambulance service, Network Rail, police and utilities over the course of 6 to 7 years. The keys were costly to reproduce and the Allotment Club Chairman did wonder what happened to these keys. There appeared to be no central point for the keys to be kept which prompted the Town Clerk to suggest North Somerset Council's CCTV team. The CCTV control room was open weekends unlike the Town Council. The Town Clerk volunteered to approach the control room, advising that they were very helpful with the Town Council's managed public conveniences. However, it was noted that the public conveniences were closed after 5.00/6.00 pm. The Allotment Club Chairman in conclusion, reiterated that it was a pointless exercise giving out keys, advising that many of the utilities had his telephone number and that a sign with his name and telephone number, located in a prominent position on site, should help the situation.</p> <p>RESOLVED: That the report be received and noted.</p>
305.	<p>To receive verbal reports from allotment site representatives:</p> <p>Rectors Way – Clive Wall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no current problems. • Two tenants had quit. • Rents were coming up. • The path was not very good. The Allotment Club Chairman suggested patch planers. • Two allotments were becoming available. <p>Redpits – Mike Tansley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no current problems. <p>Kewstoke – Mike Phillips</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There appeared to be no current problems and the issue with the Elber tree had already been mentioned under minute no: 304. <p>Hutton Moor – George Raines (in the absence of the site representative)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On the 2nd May 2017 Powergen were due to change transformers on pylons. Access would be approached from the track and across the allotment site which

would entail clearance of brambles etc. The Allotment Club Chairman would be monitoring progress.

- Five plots had been let with nobody on the waiting list.
- There were no current problems.

Bournville – George Raines (in the absence of the site representative)

- The school fence at Windwhistle School had been damaged during work by North Somerset Council (NSC) and the removal of tree branches. This had been put right and repaired by NSC. However, the Allotment Club Chairman was not sure regarding the gate at Coleridge Road which was the main entrance. The gate had been lashed to the fence. This had been reported to the Town Council and the school.
- The Allotment Club Chairman had met with the tree inspector and was advised that some trees would be cut back.
- Network Rail were working on the fence by the railway. The Town Clerk reminded members of a past meeting with Network Rail regarding fencing and safety. He requested that the outcome be reported to him or the Grounds Manager.

Old Mill Way – Jenny Nichols

- There were no current problems.

306. To receive and consider details of the current Allotment Waiting List

WAC Allotment summary

No of individual residents requesting allotment plots	31		
		Adjustment @ 15.3.17	Second Plot Requests
Total Plot requests	36		9
HUTTON	0		2
CLARKES	14		0
REDPITS	9	8	4
KEW/S	6		0
BOURN	5	0	2
LOCKING/C	2	0	2

RESOLVED: The number of individual residents requesting allotment plots be noted.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00 pm.
The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday the 14th June 2017 at 7.00 pm.

Signed..... Dated.....
Chairman