



CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Allotments Committee
held at Hutton House, Durham Road, Chilton, County Durham, on
Thursday 18th April 2019 at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Councillor D. Allanson.

Present: Councillors E. Bruce, A. Bruce, P. Davies.

In attendance: Mr. J. Robinson, Acting Town Clerk.

Members of the public: 5 members of the public.

Minute:

47/18. **APOLOGIES**

RESOLVED: To accept apologies and reasons for absence from Councillor's M. Young, J. Parker, J. Houlihan.

48/18 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Cllr. E. Bruce by virtue husband is an allotment tenant. Cllr. A. Bruce allotment holder.

49/18. **MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

None.

50/18. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chairman advised the issues he wished to raise are covered by the Agenda. He did advise that since the last meeting 3 letters had been sent to tenants advising them the need to improve their allotments. The results of the letters being monitored and reported back to next committee. He did advise there had been a complaint regarding fires during the day, members and tenants agreed to remind allotment holders of current fire setting policy.

51/18 **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21ST MARCH 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st March 2019 had been approved as a correct record and signed at the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 9th April 2019.

52/18 **MATTERS ARISING**

All matters arising covered by the Agenda items, apart from:-

- a. Cllr. Allanson advised members the Northern Allotment Association had agreed to undertake the measuring of each Allotment, the cost will be £250 plus VAT. It will also

cost mileage from Chester le Street return for the 3 days it will take to complete. This was agreed by the meeting.

- b. Notices have been ordered to go on each site entrance advising only dogs belonging to allotment tenants are allowed in the area. Concern was raised regarding the policing of this, however Cllr. D.Allanson reminded members this was agreed and ratified by Council in March series of meetings.
- c. The quote for allotment 110 was accepted at a cost of £1200, but this may be reduced if a 4th skip is not needed. Both members and tenants agreed whilst accepting the quote an article should be sent to the Chapter for members of the public to be made aware of the cost of clearing.
- d. Members confirmed to tenants that internal fencing was the responsibility of the tenant and not the Council
- e. Both members and tenants counted the votes for or against creation of an independent Tenant Association. 84 ballot papers were returned, 62 voted to remain with the Town Council, 12 voted for a Tenants Association. Decision therefore to remain under Chilton Town Council control.
- f. Quote for the renewal of outer fencing facing onto bypass, replacing 30 posts and reattaching fencing £605. This was agreed.
- g. Numbering of gates at Prospect Terrace site to commence after Easter holiday.

53/18 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Tenants present raised the following issues and actions agreed:-

- a. Fly Tipping at Prospect Terrace (Garages). Clerk to report same to LIVIN for removal. Agreed for Area Manager to be invited to attend a future meeting of Chilton Town Council.
- b. Concerns were expressed by residents regarding fencing of 107, it was agreed tenant on 107 may replace fencing now.
- c. Concern was expressed regarding the current rent levels. Clerk agreed to obtain prices from adjoining Town Councils for next meeting.
- d. The 3 piece suite has still not been taken away from in front of Hambleton Way garages, Clerk to contact LIVIN once again.

54/18 **WAITING LIST**

Members approved the allocation of the following vacant allotments,
NM to be allocated 61 Prospect Terrace
NB to be allocated 67 Prospect Terrace
AH to be allocated 110 West Chilton Terrace
JH to be allocated 200 West Chilton Terrace
ME to be allocated 209 West Chilton Terrace.

The Chairman advised 198 West Chilton Terrace had been set aside for Whitworth School. If all allocated sites are accepted this leaves no vacancies.

The following were removed from the waiting list

AT dating back to 30/07/18
SJ dating back to 22/10/17
NB dating back to 13/11/17
BB dating back to 18/10/17

55/18 **WATER USAGE**

Recording of water usage has taken place on a regular basis, figure presented to members. Concern was expressed that there must be a leak at Prospect Terrace for the amount to still be so high. Cllr.D. Allanson agreed to take this forward.

56/18. **INSPECTION**

Cllr. D.Allanson and P.Davies advised they had inspected a number of allotments and Improvement Notices served.

57/18 **BOUNDARIES**

Cllr. D.Allanson tabled a report from SE Landscaping on required fencing on allotments, quote already agreed earlier in the meeting.

RECOMMENDED: Quote to be agreed and actioned.

58/18 **MAINTENANCE:**

Covered by previous agenda items

59/18 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following requests were agreed:-

KH to become main tenant of plot 79 Prospect Terrace following death of his uncle
SB brother of tenant be added as joint tenant of plot 121 West Chilton Terrace agreed
Taylor agreed to be added as helper of Plot 158 West Chilton Terrace
JC relative to be added as joint tenant of Plot 132 West Chilton Terrace
AW to be added as joint tenant of Plot 50 Prospect Terrace and permission granted for a shed to be erected 8ftx6ftx6ft.
SD to be added as joint tenant of 24/25/26 Hambleton Way
JAR added as joint tenant of 8/13 Hambleton Way
AT added as helper to plot 106 West Chilton Terrace
TJ added as joint tenant of 40 Prospect Terrace
AW added as joint tenant of 153/154 West Chilton Terrace
JC to be added as helper to plot 2 Hambleton Way
MB to be added as helper to 140/141 West Chilton Terrace

Letter of complaint regarding plot 187 West Chilton Terrace planting Conifers, Cllr. D.Allanson and Cllr. P.Davies to investigate

Letter of complaint regarding plot 75 Prospect Terrace, same Councillors to inspect and report back to May Committee.

60/18 **BEST KEPT ALLOTMENT/GARDEN**

The Mayor and a representative from Northern Allotment Society to judge. Classes to be Best Plot in Windlestone, Best Plot in Chilton and Overall winner. Tenants to be notified and

an article in the Chapter. Judging in July. Best front garden competition details yet to be agreed.

61/18. **NEXT MEETING**

General discussion took place regarding the height of fencing. Several members believed Council minuted policy to be 4ft high, others believed it had not been formally minuted and thus not agreed. Clerk to investigate for May meeting.

Cllr. E.Bruce wished to place on the next Agenda a bond for new allotment holders
It was also requested Hambleton Way be added to the Agenda.

It was agreed that the next meeting shall be on Thursday 16th May 2019 at 10.30 a.m. in Hutton House, Durham Road, Chilton.

The meeting closed at 12.14pm

Signed:-

Mayor of Chilton
14th May 2019