



# CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of the Allotments Committee**  
held at Hutton House, Durham Road, Chilton, County Durham, on  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 10.30 a.m.

**Chairman:** *Councillor D. Allanson.*

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

**In attendance:** Mr. J. Robinson

**Members of the public:** *6 members of the public*

*Mr. David Banks Regional Secretary Allotment Association.*

## **42.0/19. APOLOGIES**

**RESOLVED:** Cllr. M. Young.

## **43.0/19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

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

## **44.0/19. MEMBERS' DISPENSATION**

None.

## **45.0/19. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

He advised he had no formal report but he would refer to specific issues on the agenda.

## **46.0/19 MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019**

Minutes agreed at Full Council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

## **47.0/19 MATTERS ARISING**

Nil.

## **48.0/19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Tenants present raised the following issues and actions agreed:-

- a. One tenant complained about tipping on West Chilton Terrace site, matter referred to Council environmental contractor
- b. A question was asked regarding tenancy of 51 Prospect Terrace

- c. A request to remove rubbish by burning same on Hambleton Way. Cllr. D.Allanson to liaise with tenants
- d. Discussion took place regarding replacement fencing on Hambleton Way. A report to be presented to the November allotment committee.
- e. reference to plot 107 and further dumping of rubbish. Cllr. D.Allanson agreed to look into matter
- e. several tenants referred to plot 110, Clerk advised work to clean up the plot will begin 19<sup>th</sup> October.
- f. Large black smoke had been seen on one site, and tenants felt it was either rubber/plastic. Cllr. D.Allanson advised a letter will be sent to the tenant advising this is against their tenancy agreement.

#### **49.0/19 BEE KEEPING**

The Chairman advised the Council had determined at this time no bee keeping to take place on allotments. However, it agreed to consider the issue again in the future if evidence was provided that the keeping of same was safe under health and safety.

#### **50.0/18 WATER**

The Chairman advised all water had been turned off across the sites from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019, and records taken of meter readings. However there is an issue which Council will raise over NWA instructions not to turn off the meter at West Chiton Terrace site.

#### **51.0/19 ALLOTMENT MEASURING**

Mr. D.Banks, Regional Secretary of Allotment Association presented his report on the measuring of all plots in the Town Council ownership (copy of presentation attached). He based his report on 1 average site being £25 per annum fee. The total is 16.1 acres of land owned by Council in form of allotments. He divided plots into sections as follows:-

1 has nil  
2 has 14  
3 has 45  
4 has 16  
5 has 26  
6 has 116  
No size determined is 2  
Garages 2

Total of 221. Based on his calculations and using the current allotment fee income would be £7000. Band 5 would be the base size and a cost of £25. Remainder would be adjusted up/down. Attached (spreadsheet identifies actual amounts). Members agreed to table and discuss at the November meeting.

Members of the public were asked to leave due to confidential nature of business

#### **52.0/19 INSPECTIONS**

The Chairman reported on current issues in regards to allotment inspections. There is an issue with 1 allotment, and it was agreed to issue the first warning letter.

#### **40.0/19 ALLOTMENT ALLOCATION**

Members agreed to 4 tenancy applications as per policy. Members noted 4 allotments remained vacant.

A request from a tenant MC to erect a shed was agreed. It was also noted asbestos remained on site, plot 51 Prospect Terrace. Environmental contractor be asked to remove.

#### **41.0/19 NEXT MEETING**

To be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 at 10.30pm in Hutton House.

The meeting closed at 11.33pm

Signed:-

Mayor of Chilton  
12<sup>th</sup> November 2019