

**CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 44 OLD STREET, CLEVEDON,**  
**ON MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2009 AT 7.30 pm.**

**Present:** Councillor C Hall (Committee Vice-Chairman)  
 Councillors C Arnold (7.38), L Knott, J Middleton, N Pennycott,  
 Town Clerk – Ms P Heath, Committee Clerk – Mrs L Phillips

**Tenants Reps:** Mr D Beynon (WA), Mr P Cornock (CH), Mr C Owens (CEM),  
 Mr W Rowlinson (ML), Mr K Santo (ML), Mr R Thackery (VR)

**AL 09/77 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Councillors P McNeill, C Wring (family commitment), and Tenants Reps Mrs M Blackmore (HA and Mr A Stephens (CH).

**AL 09/78 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - There were no declarations of interest.

**AL 09/79 MINUTES**

The minutes of the Allotments Committee meetings held on 6 July 2009 were APPROVED as a TRUE RECORD and SIGNED by the Vice-Chairman.

<b><u>PART 2</u></b>
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**AL 09/80 FINANCIAL REPORT** was provided and attached as Appendix A

**AL 09/81 MOOR LANE GATES AND ADJACENT FENCING** - AL/09/73  
 Members NOTED that quotation requests for the above work have been sent out.

**AL 09/82 CEMETERY WALL REPAIRS** - AL/09/62  
 Members NOTED that work had not yet started.

**AL 09/83 COLERIDGE VALE SITE** - AL/09/63  
 Members DEFERRED this item to next meeting as Cllr Hall is still awaiting a reply from North Somerset Council with information on soil type, depth of soil etc.

**AL 09/84 BEST GARDEN AWARDS 2009** – AL/09/64.1  
 JUDGING SHEETS - Site Reps discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the new judging sheet and also questioned the value of the time spent assessing each garden if, in the final judging, the Chairman focused more on the gardens that looked better at the August judging despite the previously awarded marks.

Also, whilst it was appreciated that the judging provided the Committee with a detailed and considered assessment of each garden in the growing season, it was suggested that regular inspections throughout the year, with a very much simplified check list, could be as useful without the effort currently involved both in judging and administration?

AL 09/84 Best Garden Awards 2009 cont'd...

- RESOLVED:**
1. Clerk to provide Cllrs with copies of both old and new judging sheets, as soon as possible, to enable Cllrs to make comments /suggestions for a revised judging sheet by the next meeting.
  2. To ask tenants at the ATM for their opinion as to the value of the Best Garden Awards and would they want it to continue.
  3. To include a reply clip with the Newsletter/rents mailing to obtain the comments of those who do not attend the ATM.
  4. To consider advertising on site notice boards when inspections are due to take place to encourage work to be done.
  5. To consider a yearly or twice yearly visit to all allotment sites by all the Ctte.
  6. To consider organising training sessions for members so the same standards apply on each site.

**AL 09/85 ANNUAL TENANTS' MEETING** – AL/09/64.2

SPEAKER - Hilary Holmes from 'Garden Organic' (formerly the Ryton Henry Doubleday Research Centre) has confirmed she will be the Speaker at the ATM and an agenda and map will be sent as soon as the agenda is available.

**AL 09/86 FLOWER SHOW - 29-30 AUGUST 2009** - AL/09/66

86.1 TABLE MANNING ROTA - Copies of the completed rota were distributed to members taking part.

86.2 DISPLAY – Although not able to stay for the meeting Mrs Blackmore attended at 7.15pm to report that that all preparations for the display were in hand.

**AL 09/87 BADGERS ON CEMETERY SITE** - AL/09/67

87.1 DEFRA/EXPERT ADVICE - The Ctte NOTED that enquiries are in progress and information is awaited from a number of wildlife and badger professionals/experts.

87.2 FENCING - Following enquiries it appears it is permitted to use a very mild electric fence to dissuade badgers from using familiar routes. The fence would only need to be used periodically to reinforce the new behaviour. NOTED

87.3 GATES - To deter access through the gates a strong mesh fencing is needed to cover the lower sections. NOTED.

**AL 09/88 BOUNDARY FENCE – 155 OLD CHURCH ROAD** - AL/09/68

In the absence of the Reps involved this item was DEFERRED to the next meeting.

**AL 09/89 BEES ON ALLOTMENTS** - AL/09/70.2

The Ctte received information and draft guidelines for allowing bees on allotment sites including membership of the relevant association, training and insurance,

**RESOLVED:** Cllrs to review the information and comment at the next meeting.

**AL 09/90 MOOR LANE MARKER PEGS** - AL/09/72.1

Following enquiries to the ex Westbourne Avenue Tenants' Rep. on the long life of their painted marker pegs, was the use of Hammerite paint on pre-sanded posts.

**RESOLVED:** Tenants Rep. to re paint the marker pegs as needed

**AL 09/91 MAINTENANCE CONTRACT - AL/09/65**

Reps to advise office if any specific work is required on site visits due on 28 August.  
Reps request that grass etc should be mown not strimmed to give a tidier finish.

**AL 09/92 TENANTS REQUESTS**

- 92.1 HA66 - New tenant requests permission for 8'x6' shed.  
**RESOLVED:** To APPROVE the request.
- 92.2 CH133 – Tenant requests return of his deposit.  
**RESOLVED:** To APPROVE the request as Reps. reported the garden was in good condition at termination.
- 92.3 ML57 and CH103 – The tenants of these gardens have requested that their 5 perch gardens are divided into two 2.5 perch gardens.  
**RESOLVED:** To APPROVE the requests to divide these gardens as the proportion of smaller gardens on these two sites is low.

**AL 09/93 WARNINGS OF POOR CULTIVATION**

These gardens were inspected and

- 93.1 ML2 - No further work visible at today's inspection. Send Determination.
- 93.2 ML12 - Work done.
- 93.3 ML14 - WPC1 sent. Reps to inspect on due date and were authorised to send WPC2 if work is not done.
- 93.4 HA68 - Little or no work done. Send WPC2
- 93.5 VR69 - Ctte NOTED the tenant's termination of his tenancy followed by letter requesting the division of the garden but, due to there being an equal number of 5 and 2.5 perch gardens already on site, and a previous request had been refused because of this, it was  
**RESOLVED:** To REFUSE the request to divide VR69.
- 93.6 CEM140 – No work done. Send WPC2

**AL 09/94 SITE AND MAINTENANCE REPORTS**

- 94.1 MOOR LANE – No other concerns.
- 94.2 HIGHDALE AVENUE –  
HA67 – Although it is accepted the tenant gardens according to strong organic principles and the garden had got out of hand due to illness, the gardens is unacceptably untidy. Send WPC1.
- 94.3 VICTORIA ROAD – No other concerns.
- 94.4 WESTBOURNE AVENUE –  
1. WA91 - Garden untidy. Send WPC1  
2. WA93b - While accepting this tenant had been ill, the garden is now very untidy and works needs to be done. Send WPC1.
- 94.5 CHURCH HILL – No other concerns.
- 94.6 CEMETERY – No other concerns.

**AL 09/95 ALLOTMENT WATCH - No reports.****AL 09/96 SITE INFORMATION -**

The Committee NOTED Agenda Item 20 - Tenancy Information

**AL 09/97 NEXT MEETING - Monday, 14 September 2009**

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD  
Meeting finished at 9.20pm.

CHAIRMAN.....  
DATE: .....