

CLEVEDON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL OFFICES, 44 OLD STREET, CLEVEDON,
ON MONDAY, 28 JUNE 2010 AT 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr C Wring (Committee Chairman)
 Cllrs C Hall, P McNeill, C Arnold & N Pennycott
 Committee Clerk – Mrs S Howard

Tenants Reps: D Beynon (WA), R Thackery (VR), C Owens (CEM).

AL 10/01 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllrs L Knott, Cllr J Middleton, K Santo and W Rowlinson.

AL 10/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on items on the agenda.

AL 10/03 MINUTES

The minutes of the Allotments Committee meeting held on 24 May 2010 were APPROVED as a TRUE RECORD and SIGNED by the Chairman.

AL 10/04 UPDATES AND ACTIONS

There were no updates and actions received.

<u>PART 2</u>

AL 10/05 FINANCIAL REPORT OF ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE ACCOUNTS

Members NOTED the financial report. The Allotment Clerk confirmed that due to the time of year, there has not been much movement in the accounts and they remain in good order.

AL 10/06 UPDATE TO CEMETERY WALL AND GROUNDS WORK

[AL/09/82] & [AL/09/105] Cllr Wring advised she had noticed that the wall is now completed. Cllr Hall confirmed that he is thrilled with the finished wall and credit to Neil Foster, YMCA.

AL 10/07 BOUNDARY CONTRACT MAINTENANCE REPORTS

Latest site visit was 4 June 2010. All Tenant Representatives at the meeting confirmed that it appeared that the latest work had been completed and no concerns were raised.

AL 10/08 SITE MAINTENANCE REPORTS

Church Hill – There is a dead tree by garden no. 112 that needs removing, which is on our boundary. Also, a lot of rubbish and sticks around garden no. 113, which was felt to be the debris from the dead tree. Garden no. 111 has a lot of weeds on the bottom corner of their plot. It was asked that a letter be sent to the Tenant concerning this. The footpath located between the allotment boundary and the flats has become very overgrown with weeds and there is lots of rubbish too. Cllr Hall advised that he would report this to Streets and Open Spaces.

Victoria Road – Cllr Arnold reported that there are no issues on site. However, the Donkey Path running along the side of the allotments has lots of weeds. Cllr Hall will report this to Streets and Open Spaces.

Highdale Avenue – Cllr Pennycott enquired as to whether there was an update to the boundary wall and when the noticeboard will be lowered. This will be followed up with the Town Clerk.

Cemetery – C Owens asked if something could be done to the gate at the lower part of the allotment site to help keep badgers off site. It was discussed that mesh could be bought to see if this would help. Also, the old gate from the Church Hill site was intended for Cemetery Site, will need to check with Town Clerk as to it's location. C Owens enquired about the use of hosepipes on site. It was confirmed that hosepipes are for filling/topping up water receptacles only and not for watering gardens.

AL 10/9 DRAFT TENANCY AGREEMENT

A revised draft was distributed at the meeting. The Committee discussed the content and amendments were noted. The document will need the further amendments to be re-typed for discussion at the next Committee Meeting in July.

AL 10/10 DRAFT QUESTIONNAIRE RE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

[AL/10/12] The Allotment Clerk advised that the requested amendments to the draft questionnaire had been done and therefore the form was ready to be issued to all tenants. A tenant representative that had not been at the previous meeting advised that he was not happy with the content of the questionnaire and did not want it to be sent to tenants. Cllr Hall and Cllr Wring did advise that the questionnaire was at the request of the Council to produce and issue to all tenants. However, the Tenant Representatives were still not happy with the questionnaire and did not want the form to be issued. A vote was taken at the meeting, which decided that the form would not be sent to all tenants. However, it was agreed that all Tenant Representatives would need to speak to the tenants to ascertain as to whether they would like an allotment association. This needs to be completed by 19 July 2010. The outcome of the discussions held, will be discussed at the next allotment meeting.

AL 10/11 UPDATE BY WORKING GROUP FOR CLEVEDON FLOWER SHOW 2010

Cllr Wring and the Allotment Clerk advised that they will be collating details of the different types of crops grown on the Clevedon Allotment sites and comparing this information to see how far the same fruit and vegetables have travelled, before arriving at the supermarkets. If anyone would like to help 'man' the stall over the Clevedon Flower Show weekend, please contact the Allotment Clerk. We will provide a further update at the next meeting on 26 July 2010.

AL 10/12 BEST KEPT GARDEN AWARDS 2010

The 1st round of judging has taken place across all sites and the results were distributed at the meeting. It was asked if a copy of the judging criteria could be displayed on all allotment noticeboards. It was agreed that this information will be provided in time for the 2nd round of judging in July.

It was also agreed to change the criteria slightly, as some gardens do not have water receptacles as they are generally within close proximity to a tap, and therefore would not be able to gain the maximum points. The question – ‘Covered water butt’ will be moved to the ‘Administration’ section. The 5 points granted for this question has been added to question no. 3.1. This was agreed by the Committee at the meeting.

Confirmation of the 2nd round of judging will be, 12th to 17th July and results to be given to the Allotment Clerk on 19 July for collation, to then be discussed at the Committee meeting on 26 July.

AL 10/13 REPORT ON ALLOTMENT OFFICER’S FORUM, TIVERTON

Cllr Wring and the Allotment Clerk provided a copy of their report from their visit to Tiverton and the Regeneration Allotment Forum. They both found the day a worthwhile and informative session and some useful contacts have been formed in the process.

AL 10/14 RECEIVE OFFER OF SIX SCARECROWS

The Allotment Clerk advised that the 6th Clevedon West Brownies had made six scarecrows that had been entered into the Kenn Village Fete. As the scarecrows were no longer required, the offer was made to the allotment sites. It was agreed that the allotment Tenant Representatives would like the scarecrows and the Allotment Clerk will make arrangements with them to get them on the sites. Cllr Wring thanked the Allotment Clerk for the offer.

AL 10/15 ALLOTMENT WATCH

No issues were reported.

AL 10/16 TENANTS REQUESTS

No requests have been received.

AL 10/17 ALLOTMENT INFORMATION

The only movement since the last Committee Meeting in June is that the number of people on the waiting list has increased from 173 to 175.

AL 10/18 CHAIRMANS ITEMS

Cllr Wring advised the Committee that she has received a letter of resignation from M Blackmore. Cllr Wring was saddened by this news and this was shared by the Committee. Cllr Wring will write a letter of thanks to M Blackmore on behalf of the Committee. This now means that we need a Tenant Representative on Highdale Avenue. A tenant of Highdale Avenue was in attendance at the meeting and it was asked if she had considered being the Tenant Representative. The tenant’s details were left with the Allotment Clerk. The position will be advertised on the Highdale Avenue noticeboard. Concerning Allotment Watch, the Allotment Clerk offered to take over this position and this voted and agreed at the meeting.

Cllr Hall advised that he is working on the Hither Green site (Kelting Grove/Brookfield Walk) and is looking to contact North Somerset Council to ascertain if the land is suitable, to do soil tests and the cost etc. Once this is established, then Cllr Hall will be writing to the neighbours of this area to advise them of our intent.

AL 10/19 DETERMINE PART I AND PART II ITEMS

There were no Part I items.

APPROVED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIRMAN.....

Meeting finished at 9.20pm.

DATE: