

Minutes of **Allotment Advisory Committee** held on Monday **18<sup>th</sup> June 2012** in Messingham Village Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Mountain & M Proctor; Mr M Walker, Mr B Ross, Mr M May, Mr P Chapman and the Clerk.

**CHAIRMAN OF THE MEETING** - In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Councillor J Mountain was nominated to take the chair for this meeting. Agreed.

**358. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Received from Councillor J Walker

**359. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** - None received.

**360. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING 19<sup>TH</sup> March 2012**

The minutes were circulated to all members prior to this meeting. They were agreed to be a true record. Approved by the Parish Council 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012 Min Ref: 212.

**361. MATTERS ARISING**

**a) Min 353a Allotment 47a**

The Clerk confirmed that the tenant has paid his rent for the forthcoming year and has made no indication that he wishes to terminate his tenancy.

**b) Min 356a Allotment 11a**

It was noted that the tenant has increased his activity on the allotment. No further action to be taken.

**c) Min 356b Allotment 16a**

The Clerk confirmed that the tenant has paid his rent for the forthcoming year but it was noted that the allotment remains uncultivated. Untidy notice to be sent.

**d) Min 352a Water**

Mr M Walker reported that he had turned the water off in the belief that the large pool of water was due to a pipe leak. It was later discovered that the water was due to a blocked drain pipe under the road. Mr Walker apologised for not having notified the Clerk of his action.

**363. CORRESPONDENCE**

Growing Communities Newsletter.

**364. TENANCY TERMINATIONS** – None

**365. TENANCY APPLICATIONS**

a) Mrs J Levitt, 10 High Street – APPROVED

b) Mrs W Wadge, 30 Well Street – APPROVED

**366. ALLOTMENTS INSPECTION REPORT**

Mr M Walker commented that a number of allotments were more untidy than usual but felt that the recent weather conditions were a contributory factor, however the following allotments were reported to require Untidy Notices to be issued:

- a. Allotment 17a – First warning
- b. Allotment 49aa – Second warning
- c. Allotment 42a – The Clerk reported that she had sent a first warning notice on 10<sup>th</sup> May – it was noted that there had been no improvements so a second warning notice to be sent.
- d. Allotment 11f – First warning

**367. OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) SECURITY – Mr M May reported that access is being gained into the allotments via the hedge to the rear of the woodland and suggested that the gaps in the hedge should be filled. It was noted that this had been done many times but to no effect. The placing of notices was suggested.
- b) EXPENSES – Mr M Walker asked for a summary of the expenses for the last five years which was given by the Clerk . It was noted that a large proportion of expense was for repairing the road and it was suggested that better filling material is needed. It was noted that the one way system is working to prevent additional damage.
- c) CRIMINAL DAMAGE – Mr M Walker reported on the recent spate of criminal damage at the end of May and informed members that his own costs could be approx. £1000 to replace his damaged poly tunnel etc and that no insurance cover is available. As this is the latest in a series of theft and damage to allotments it was requested that the installation of CCTV cameras be considered by the Parish Council. It was noted that a volunteer is available to install the cameras and that the estimated cost would be approximately £600 per camera. It was agreed to take this request to the Parish Council and to arrange a follow up meeting in July to discuss the outcome.
- d) ALLOTMENT ROAD – As discussed at the allotment tenants meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> April, Mr Ross agreed to fill the hole in the road at his first opportunity.
- e) GRASS ON TRACK – Councillor Proctor reported that the grass is very high on the track and Mr Ross agreed to cut this back at his first opportunity.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING. Meeting closed at 8.00pm.