

## **Report of the Allotment Sub Committee to the Parish Council**

The Committee met at 7.30 pm on **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017**, in Committee Room 1 at the Parish Hall, Great Baddow. Cllr Mrs S Young chaired the meeting.

Present: Cllrs Mrs S Young, K Ronaldson, T Miller, K Liley, Mrs C Shaw, Mrs J Sosin, Mrs V Sadowsky and Mrs M Miller

In Attendance:       The Clerk of the Council  
                              The Grounds Supervisor  
                              Towerfield Allotment Site Representative Mr T Hull  
                              Vicarage Lane Allotment Site Representative Mr M Harris

### **768/16 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs D Ronaldson, who had substituted Cllr Mrs M Miller, Cllr A Sosin, who was attending a licensing hearing on behalf of the Parish Council and Cllr J Fuller.

### **769/16 Declarations of Interests**

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, Other Pecuniary Interests or Registerable Non Pecuniary Interests.

### **770/16 Minutes**

The minutes from the last meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016 were presented to the meeting and proposed by Cllr Mrs S Young and seconded by Cllr Mrs C Shaw. They were agreed unanimously and then signed as a true record.

### **771/16 Public Question Time**

There were no members of the public present.

### **772/16 To receive an update report on matters raised by the Allotment Representatives on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

A report prepared by the Grounds Supervisor had been circulated prior to the meeting. The following items were noted:

There are currently 6 vacant plots on the Vicarage Lane site and 8 on the Towerfield site. It was noted that two Notices to Quit have recently been issued on the Towerfield site and so there are likely to be a further two vacant plots.

There is currently no allotment waiting list.

#### **Update on issues raised by the Towerfield Allotment Representative on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

1. Further to Mr Hull's comments about the lack of maintenance on the Towerfield site, the Grounds Supervisor reported that 4 Seasons Landscapes have started work on the site and are making good progress. They have been cutting and tidying the boundaries and the vacant plots.
2. The Grounds Supervisor is currently liaising with someone at Barleylands Craft Village about numbers for the allotment plots.

#### **Update on the issues raised by the Vicarage Lane Allotment Representative on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

There were no items to be updated.



## **Bees**

The Chairman asked if there was any update on the contact with the Essex Beekeeping Society about the Bee Policy. The Clerk told the meeting that she had contacted the Essex Beekeeping Society in early January 2017 and that they had replied saying that one of their members would be in touch to discuss the matter. This has not happened so far and so the Clerk will follow this up.

## **773/16 Report of the Towerfield Allotment Representative**

1. Mr Hull gave his thanks to the Council for maintaining the boundaries and for cutting the vacant plots on the site. He also noted that there was some debris that needed to be cleared. The Grounds Supervisor said that some of this had already been cleared but that inappropriate parking in the No Parking area outside the site had prevented the Council's staff accessing the site. The contractors will continue to focus on the empty plots.
2. Mr Hull reported that there was a problem with the vehicle gate, which seems to have dropped and will need adjusting. The Grounds Supervisor said that she will investigate this and try and get a repair done.
3. Mr Hull gave his thanks to all concerned for the current good state of the site.

## **774/16 Vicarage Lane Allotment Site**

1. Mr Harris reported that generally the site is well kept, although there are some plots that need attention. The Grounds Supervisor reported that an inspection has recently been carried out and some allotment tenants have been contacted.
2. Mr Harris noted that several plots seem to have had the numbers renewed. The Grounds Supervisor confirmed that this has not been done by the Council and that as reported earlier, she is investigating a solution to the problem.
3. Mr Harris reported that in general, the site gate is now being closed, although there are a small minority who do not do this.

## **775/16 Best Kept Allotment Competition**

The meeting considered the appointment of the judges for the Competition and it was agreed that Cllr Mrs S Young and Cllr Mrs J Sosin will represent the Parish Council. The Clerk was asked to contact the Horticultural Society to provide two judges.

## **776/16 Matters for information**

- Cllr K Liley said that the Lawn Cemetery is looking exceptional and that thanks should be given to everyone involved.

## **777/16 Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 7.44 pm

Signed..........Chairman..........Date