

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, THE MARKET
HOUSE, TRING ON MONDAY 10th JUNE 2013 AT 8.21 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: J. Allan, in the Chair
M. Hicks
N. Nutkins
Mrs R. Ransley (ex officio)

Co-opted Members: Mr R. Wallis (Tring Allotments Association)
Mr J. Savage
Mrs B. Kazer (Tring Environmental Forum/Tring in
Transition)

Also present: Mr M. Curry, Town Clerk
Mrs P. Walker, Deputy Town Clerk

No members of the public

16854. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from the Councillor S. Hearn (prior engagement), Councillor Mrs G. Haynes – family circumstances), Mrs G. Brown (The Chiltern Society - prior engagement) and Mr J. Savage (The Ramblers Association - holiday).

16855. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

16856. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th April 2013 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

16857. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

Item 16794: The Clerk reported that the availability of plots on Duckmore Lane had been advertised and it had generated enquiries - see item 16861 (i). Mr J. Savage reports on the progress of adoption of the Rights of Way across Canal Field in item 16860.

16858. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

Various publications were available on the table.

Councillor Allan reported on the continued abuse of the restrictions on vehicular access - see item 16861 (iii). An area of building waste has appeared in the top corner of the site.

Action: The Town Warden to inspect the building waste and take the appropriate action.

16859. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

16860. REPORTS FROM CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mr R. Wallis (Tring Allotments Association):

- A plant sale will be held on the last Saturday in June
- The Association asked the Council to consider measures to keep vacant plots in an acceptable condition so that potential tenants are not dissuaded.

- Resolution:**
- (i) The Clerk to discuss strimming and covering vacant plots with the Town Warden
 - (ii) New tenants be given the first year rent free as an incentive to take on plots in the judgement of the Clerk that are in an excessively poor state. This could include the removal of fruit trees
 - (ii) The Allotment Association produce information sheets for new tenants on the initial clearance and control of areas for cultivation

John Savage (The Ramblers Association)'s report was circulated prior to the meeting.

16861. ALLOTMENTS MANAGEMENT:

- (i) *To receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk on allotment lettings*
- (ii) *To receive a report from the Deputy Town Clerk on the allotment inspection*
- (iii) *To receive a report from the Town Warden on improving allotment signage and installing an allotment notice board*

The above reports were noted. The tone of the inspection letters was welcomed by the Committee. Councillor Allan thanked the Deputy Clerk for the good work she was doing to improve the management of the allotment records. The success of the gate & key system at Bulbourne was noted.

- Resolution:**
- (i) To make potential tenant aware of the possibility of quarter plots
 - (ii) To purchase and install the proposed signage to the higher specification quoted
 - (iii) To install the notice board
 - (iv) To install signage indicating where vehicular access ceased. To monitor the on-going situation in case further measures are required.

16862. PUBLICATION OF THE CHILTERN AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN 2014-19 – STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCOPING REPORT DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION (Letter of Introduction previously circulated).

There is a duty to review the existing plan that expires this year and consider whether to amend the existing plan or publish a new plan. In either case a new delivery plan is to be produced. The method of review to be used is given in a guidance document on best practice. The method follows a 10 stage process – this is stage 5: 'Consult on SEA Scoping Report'.

The Scoping report represents the first stage of the review process – it describes how the SEA will be undertaken and the scope and level of detail to be included. The purpose of the consultation is to consider the process and identify possible weaknesses and omissions

- Resolution:**
- (i) To note the consultation
 - (ii) To ask Mrs G. Brown (The Chiltern Society) to consider and respond accordingly

The meeting ended at 8.50 p.m.

Chairman