

**MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENTS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE OF THE
TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MARKET HOUSE, TRING
ON MONDAY 15th JUNE 2009 AT 7.44 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: Mrs R. L. Ransley (Chairman)
B.F. Batchelor (sub. for L. J. Harris)
W. D. Berdinner
Mrs M.V. Booth

Co-opted: Mary Lynn Moxon (Tring Allotments Association)
Rupert Wallis (Tring Allotments Association)

Also present: Ms J. Thurley, Assistant to the Clerk of the Council
C. J. Jones, Town Warden
No members of the public

15023. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lloyd Harris and Mike James; Mrs Greta Brown (The Chiltern Society), Brian and Barbara Kazer (Tring Environmental Forum) and John Savage (The Ramblers Association).

15024. **COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Committee noted the revised Terms of Reference approved at the Annual Council Meeting on 11th May 2009 Minute 14987, which had been circulated with the agenda.

15025. **CO-OPTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2009/10**

RESOLVED: That the following be co-opted members of the Committee until its dissolution or the next Annual Meeting of the Council, whichever was the earlier:

Brian Kazer/Barbara Kazer (Tring Environmental Forum)
Greta Brown (The Chiltern Society)
Mary Lynn Moxon, representing allotment holders
John Savage (The Ramblers Association)
Rupert Wallis, representing allotment holders

The Clerk's Assistant would contact John Savage, and Brian and Barbara Kazer to ascertain whether they were still willing to serve. Chris Gray had confirmed he did not wish to continue as a co-optee on the Committee. The Clerk's Assistant was asked to write a letter of thanks to Chris in appreciation of his work over the last 10 years. The Chairman welcomed Rupert Wallis to the Committee. It was reported that Brian and Barbara Kazer had been involved in a car accident and the Clerk's Assistant was asked to send them a get well card on behalf of the Committee.

15026. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were none.

15027. **WORKING PARTIES 2009/10**

Allotments Consultation Working Party and Tring Transport Plan

The Committee agreed that Working Parties would be convened as and when necessary.

15028. **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Allotments & Environment Committee meeting held on 6th April 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

15029. **MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES**

Arising from Minute 14951(i), Barbara Kazer was still to provide information on 'dry' hanging baskets for the Miswell Lane area.. Arising from Minute 14951(ii), the Town Council's hanging baskets had been installed in the High Street. Arising from Minute 14952, the Clerk was awaiting clearance from HM Revenue & Customs regarding recovery of VAT before work to Pond Close play area could commence. Arising from Minute 14957(v), the Clerk was still waiting for a formal response from DBC with regard to emptying an additional litter bin in the Chapel Meadow Play area.

15030. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

15031. **MEMORIAL GARDEN**

The Chairman reported that, following formal acceptance by DBC of the Committee's planting scheme, a favourable quotation for replanting the five flower beds had been received and accepted. The Town Warden reported that Tring in Transition had already planted its chosen bed as a herb garden, and the other beds would be completed by the contractor by the end of the week.

15032. **DUCKMORE LANE ALLOTMENTS**

The Clerk's Assistant and the Town Warden had inspected the Duckmore Lane allotment site on 20th May and letters had been issued to plot holders who were not keeping their plot up to standard. This had resulted in 4 plots being given up and re-assigned. There were 35 people currently on the waiting list, 17 from 2008 and 18 registered in 2009. The pipes to the new water tank had been repaired by the Town Warden; the Committee thanked him for his work. The Chairman confirmed that she was unable to supply the Committee with a contact for making new 'no dog' signs. The Clerk's Assistant was asked to source the work locally. A request had been received from a plot holder asking permission to make over part of plot 28. The Committee rejected this request due to the area being used by tractors as a turning point. The Clerk's Assistant had obtained information from the Allotment Regeneration Initiative with a view to applying for a grant towards increasing the number of allotment plots. Rupert Wallis volunteered to review the paperwork.

15033. **PARISH PATHS PARTNERSHIP (P3)**

The Clerk's Assistant reported that £1,000 had been received from the Countryside Management Service for 2009/10. The Town Warden reported that we had received a quotation for the supply and fitting of kissing gates on FP56 at a cost of £609.00 ex VAT per gate. This meant that only one gate could be fitted within budget. The Committee requested the Clerk's Assistant put forward a request to the Finance & Policy Committee for additional funding to enable another gate to be fitted on this footpath.

15034. **MILLENNIUM WOODLAND**

The Town Warden reported that work to the Woodland would be completed by the contractor within the next two weeks.

15035. **REPORTS FROM CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

Mary Lyn Moxon, for Tring Allotments Association, was pleased to report that, as a result of the recent mailing to all allotment plot holders, Tring Allotment Association now had a membership of 55. The recent plant sale held in Church Square had not been a total success due to the inclement weather. She noted that the 'Tring Living' magazine had wrongly published the Allotments Association were holding an Open Day this year. Their Annual General Meeting would be held on Wednesday 30th September 2009 at the Red Cross Hall and all members of the Committee were invited to attend. A letter had been received from a plot holder regarding problems encountered with dogs on their plot. The Clerk's Assistant would reply.

15036. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

The Committee noted the following communications:

- (i) Letter from the Allotments Regeneration Initiative advising of a new ARI Mentor for Hertfordshire.
- (ii) Copy of a report of problems affecting Rights of Way
- (iii) Various Dacorum Borough Council publications regarding recycling and composting

The following brochures/papers were available for perusal in the Clerk's office:

- (i) CDA for Herts: Newsletter April 2009
- (ii) CPRE: Fieldwork June 2009
- (iii) Fields in Trust Annual Review and Trustees' Report and Accounts 2008
- (iv) Hertfordshire Building Preservation Trust: Newsletter Spring 2009
- (v) The Chiltern Society: Chiltern News June 2009; Chiltern Views Spring 2009
- (vi) The CTC Trust: Cycle Digest, issue no. 58 of 2009; Safety in Numbers
- (vii) The Open Spaces Society: Open Space Summer 2009 and Annual Report and Accounts 2008

The meeting ended at 8.26 p.m.

Chairman