

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS & ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
THE MARKET HOUSE, TRING ON MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 8.20 p.m.**

Present: Councillors: N. Nutkins, in the Chair
P. Hearn
P. McDowell
B. Patterson
H. Piper
C. Townsend

Co-opted members: Mr I Brownell
Mrs V. Allan
Mr J. Savage

Also present: Cllr R. Hollinghurst
Mrs D. Slade, Deputy Town Clerk
Mr M. Curry Town Clerk

19827. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Cllr Ransley (prior appointment - Cllr Townsend deputised); Mrs Brown (prior appointment); and Mrs Kazer (prior appointment – Mrs Allan deputised)

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies for the reasons given

19828. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**19829. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD
ON 3rd JUNE 2019**

RESOLVED: To accept the Minutes as circulated

19830. MATTERS OF REPORT FROM THE MINUTES

None

19831. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS

The following information had been received:

- Details from Chesham on their tree planting initiative
- Sustainable Wigginton Meeting Saturday 21st September 2019
- A scheme to rent out non-plastic party-ware
- Dacorum Borough Council's Sustainable Clothes Swap initiative

19832. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present.

Part 1 Allotments

19833. ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT

The Deputy Clerk's report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Deputy Clerk

highlighted the work done by the Town Warden & Assistant Town Warden to clear abandoned plots. Generally when a plot has been cleared it has been re-let. This has caused a problem of rubbish disposal.

The Deputy Clerk explained the need for work on trees round the perimeter of the Nora Grace Hall and beside the Kingsley Walk footpath.

- RESOLVED:** (i) To split the cost of a skip to remove rubbish from the site with the Allotment Association
- (ii) To approve the changes in the tenancy agreement as presented
- (iii) Not to raise allotment rents in the growing season 2020/21. A review of rents would be carried out prior at the September 2020 meeting for the following growing season
- (iv) To approved the proposed works to trees at the Nora Grace Hall and beside Kingsley Walk

19834. ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION'S REPORT

Mr I Brownell reported that the Summer Show had been very successful and of a high quality. He thanked the Mayor for judging and the sponsors of the competitions.

There had been a proliferation of wood chips on the site as the tree surgeon had an abundance. A pending contract with Arla would resolve the situation.

19835. ALLOTMENT COMPETITION

The Deputy Clerk proposed that the allotment competition be moved to the summer and the awards presented at the Allotment Association's Summer Show as an improvement to the current timing.

Mr Brownell welcomed the proposal and suggested a review of the categories.

- RESOLVED:** To change the timing of the allotment competition as proposed and for Mr Brownell and the Deputy Clerk to agree new categories to give more variance in the prize winners

Part 2 Environment

19836. REPORT FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY

A report with recommendations was circulated prior to the meeting. Since the report was written, the Victoria Hall has become available. It was agreed that this was the most suitable venue. Tring School was thanked for offering its facilities.

- RESOLVED:** (i) To approve the proposals for the Climate Change Event and to delegate to the Chairman of the Allotments & Environment Committee, the Mayor and Clerk further decisions on the event given the time frame
- (ii) To accept the recommendation from the Working Party and propose the Mayor signs the Covenant of Mayors at the next Council meeting

19837. TOWN WARDEN'S REPORT

The Town Warden's report was circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: To note the report circulated and Warden & Assistant Warden for their work

19838. RIGHTS OF WAY AND P3

There has been a burst of activity to bring the local rights of way up to standard – very few issues remain and the situation is the best it has been for several years.

The proposed work on footpath 84 has been accepted for P3 funding because it links to the playground and is on a route to school.

19839. TRING IN TRANSITION

The following matters were reported:

- A Community Garden is progress well with its work
- The Energy Group is working on an assessment of the Town's carbon footprint

19840. FRIENDS OF MILLENNIUM WOOD

A programme of eight working party sessions has been organised now the summer is over. New recruits are always welcomed. All the trees donated by the Woodland Trust have taken well and the hedge has received very positive comments.

19841. DACORUM ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Councillors Patterson reported on the latest meeting:

- Renewable Energy Systems, Kings Langley, gave an overview of the renewable energy industry in the UK, sources of generation and enabling technologies (e.g. energy storage). The use of rare metals (Cobalt & Lithium) in batteries was a concern
- A discussion on plastics and the environment, including an update on what Plastic-free Berko is doing
- The representatives from Tring & Berkhamsted were welcomed and there was a lot of interest in the proposed climate change event.

The meeting closed at 9.09 p.m.

Chairman