

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS & ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE OF TRING TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER, THE MARKET HOUSE, 61, HIGH STREET, TRING on MONDAY  
27th MARCH AT 9.10 pm**

**Present: Councillors**      N. Nutkins (Chairman)  
   B. Patterson  
   R. Ransley  
   C. Townsend (Substituting for Cllr Hearn)

**Also present**                      Cllr R. Hollinghurst  
   L. Housden (Town Clerk)  
   C. Murray (Deputy Clerk)  
   I. Brownell (Allotment Association)  
   J. Rook (Tring in Transition)  
   G. Brown (Chiltern Society)

**Absent Councillors:**          H. Piper  
   P. Hearn  
   P. McDowell

**21365. APOLOGIES**

Cllr Hearn (Prior engagement)

**RESOLVED:** To accept the apologies for the reasons given.

**21366. DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

None received.

**21367. TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT AND  
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE ON 5th DECEMBER 2022**

**RESOLVED:** To accept the minutes as circulated.

**21368. MATTERS OF REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**21369. CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS**

Nothing to report.

**21370. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of public present

*Part 1 Allotments***21371. ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT**

(i) The Deputy Clerk reported:

1. All 136 plots are occupied.
2. An inspection is due to be carried out in May to ascertain if any plots are not being worked.
3. The waiting list currently stands at 43.
4. The management of volunteers for Millennium Wood has been transferred back to the Information Centre, as prior to lockdown.
5. In consultation with the West Herts Beekeepers association, the Council has been advised that the Duckmore Lane site is inappropriate for beekeeping.

(ii) The Committee was asked to consider if 5 new half allotment plots should be created to reduce the large waiting list. Estimates had been obtained to give the Committee an idea as to the cost involved.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Cllr Townsend and seconded by Cllr Ransley:

- (i) To note the Deputy Clerk's report as presented.
  - (ii) To defer this decision until the inspections in May and enquiries are made if any existing plot holders would be willing to divide their plots.
- Unanimously agreed.

**21372. ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

Ian Brownell of the Allotment Association reported that manure has been delivered to the allotment site from Dunsley Farm, and well received by plot holders. He asked that two dates be noted:

- Saturday 13th May - Plant Sale in Church Square
- Saturday 22nd July - Summer Show & Barbecue at Duckmore Lane Allotments. Councillors were asked to volunteer as judges, and this will be put to the new councillors in May.

Ian requested that, as in previous years, the council pay half the cost of a skip (in the region of £350), enabling plot holders to clear their plots. Quotes for skips would be obtained.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Cllr Townsend, seconded by Cllr Ransley. To receive the report from the Allotments Association, and to pay half the costs of a skip on the allotments site. Unanimously agreed.

**21373. TOWN WARDEN REPORT**

The Town Warden has been busy maintaining a safe and tidy environment in the town and works have included:

- Hedges at allotments
- Improvements to play equipment
- Painting bollards in Church Square
- Checking the chalk stream at New Mill for flooding
- Daily checks at the allotments - general maintenance and the water troughs
- Delivery post as required by the office
- Regular checks of the defibrillators in town
- Obtaining quotes for digging plots at the allotments

**RESOLVED:** to note the Town Warden's report.

**21374. CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY**

The Committee were asked to consider if they wished to accept the following recommendations made by the Climate Change Working Party:

(i) To accept an offer of a free green space opportunity audit from the Countryside Management Service.

(ii) For the Council to take part in the national event, Great Big Green Week by promoting it and supporting key stakeholders to run different activities during the week. Including making a contribution towards printing costs of around £300, for promotional materials.

(iii) That the greening page of the website be updated as per the suggested wording that had been circulated.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Cllr Townsend, seconded Cllr Ransley. To adopt and agree to all of the above recommendations. Unanimously agreed.

**21375. RIGHTS OF WAY**

Ms. Brown confirmed that all is currently good with rights of way and pathways. She had complained to the site manager of the car park at the Woodland Trust/Tring Park about muddy entranceways, and asked for pebbles to be put there. The building of the car park is ongoing and should have been finished eighteen months ago. Councillors had requested a pond by the car park for runoff and to enhance biodiversity.

**RESOLVED:** Ms. Brown to discuss the possibility of a pond with the site manager.

**21376. TRING IN TRANSITION**

A report had been circulated prior to the meeting giving updates on the Repair Cafe, the Community Garden, Thermal Imaging Project, Rothschild Land and the Bishop Wood no-dig vegetable project.

**RESOLVED:** To note the report from Tring in Transition.

**21377. SUPPORT FOR REPURPOSING BT PHONE BOX IN DOLPHIN SQUARE**

The committee were asked to consider a request from Sustainable Tring to support their application to repurpose the phone box in Dolphin Square, should it be returned as it had recently been removed.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Cllr Townsend, seconded Cllr Ransley. To support Sustainable Tring's application to repurpose the Dolphin Square phone box, should it be returned. Unanimously agreed.

**21378. FARMERS' MARKET MOVE TO CHURCH SQUARE**

The committee were asked to consider a request from the organisation to move back to Church Square but to note the dates that it was not available due to other events.

**RESOLVED:** Proposed by Cllr Townsend, seconded Cllr Ransley. To agree to the request from the Farmers' Market to move to Church Square, from June. Unanimously agreed.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

Chairman