

## ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the Allotments Committee held at 8.30 pm on Thursday, 22 September 2005 at The Institute. Councillor Fisk, presided over Councillors Blessett, Helyar, Thomas and the clerk. No members of the public were present.

**018 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Warrick due to work commitments.

**019 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None.

**020 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21 July 2005, having previously been circulated, were approved as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

**021 REVIEW OF BUDGET AND TO DATE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2006/07 BUDGET**

The Clerk reported that spending to date was in the region of £3175 out of a total budget of £3000 (approval for water connection costs to be met from contingency fund had been given at a meeting of the full council in September 2005). Rental from allotment plots was still arriving and would be in the region of £1170.00.

With regard to the forthcoming budget, it was noted that there was still some necessary work which was required to ensure the success of this venture including further work to pathways including substantially more plantings, the addition of a hard standing for the central plot and general maintenance. It was therefore proposed, seconded and agreed to recommend to the Finance Committee that the Maintenance budget be set at £1000 and the Miscellaneous budget be set at £3000 on the understanding that further budgets would be vastly lower in following years as rental income should cover many costs.

**014 GENERAL PROGRESS AND MAINTENANCE OF ALLOTMENT GARDENS**

It was noted that in general progress was good and that there was still a waiting list. The clerk reported that some reallocations had been made following the resignation of some plots and that some further ones had recently become available which would help reduce the list.

**015 REVIEW OF WATER SUPPLY AND USAGE**

Cllr Fisk reported that one allotment holder had investigated costs for a mains water supply via a more direct route than was previously thought possible by Anglian Water by agreement with a local farmer and by the Allotments Association undertaking the ground work within the gardens. Costs would then be in region of £2400. Members agreed that a mains supply would be preferable and more cost effective in the long term. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to **recommend** to full council that £2400 be used from the general contingency budget for the cost of mains water supply to the Allotment Gardens. It was agreed the council would be asked to consider that £1200 was estimated to be due from allotment rental and that the bowers could be sold and that these amounts could be returned to the contingency fund at a later date.

**016 RENTAL CHARGES**

It was proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to **recommend** to full council that rental charges remain at the same level. The clerk reported that due to allotment law and type of tenancy agreement in place no increases could be made without 12 month notice period.

**017 DATE OF NEXT MEETING- tbc**

TBC

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.10 pm.