



# Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

## ALLOTMENTS AND LAND COMMITTEE MINUTES Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2023

**Present:** Cllrs J Bright, K Bright, J Hobson, E Orhan, K Pressland  
Senior Administrative Officer: Julie Belsey

**26. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2023/24**

Councillor K Bright proposed and Councillor J Bright seconded that Councillor James Hobson be Chair. Following a vote, Councillor James Hobson was elected Chair of the Allotments and Land Committee for the Civic Year 23/24.

Councillor K Bright proposed and Councillor E Orhan seconded that Councillor Kevin Pressland be Vice Chair. Following a vote, Councillor Kevin Pressland was elected as Vice Chair of the Allotments and Land Committee for the Civic Year 23/24

**27. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

The Chairman reminded those present of the right to record, film or broadcast any meetings of the Council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

**28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr S Roberts. These apologies were accepted.

**29. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**30. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Members received the draft Terms of Reference and AGREED their APPROVAL. The Terms of Reference will go to the next Full Council meeting for final APPROVAL.

**31. MINUTES**

RESOLVED to RECEIVE and APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Proposed Cllr Hobson, seconded Cllr J Bright, agreed.

**32. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA**

Members requested a copy of the budget for Allotments and Town Council owned land. The Senior Administrative Officer will send this out the Members.

**33. NORMAN ROAD AND NASH GARDENS/PROSPECT ROAD ALLOTMENTS**

i) The Committee received information regarding the Town Council owned allotments at Nash Gardens and Norman Road.

There are currently 34 on the waiting list at Norman Road and 37 at Nash Gardens. Two plots are vacant, one at each site, with people on the waiting list being contacted to fill these plots.

The Senior Administrative Officer has recently undertaken training via online webinar for health and safety and allotment leases. Whilst our sites are small, there are a number of areas that will be looked at to improve information available to current tenants and potential allotment holders. We will always endeavour to work with tenants who are having problems with cultivation to allow time to improve their site.

The Operations Officer has repaired a hole that was made at the bottom of the metal security fencing at Norman Road.

ii) Committee Members will inform the Senior Administrative Officer of their availability to undertake an allotment site visit.

#### **34. CULMER'S AMENITY LAND**

i) The Committee received information regarding Culmer's Amenity Land.

The land on which 5 Beach Mews had their front and rear gardens had planning permission refused by TDC to revert it back to local green space. The application appeared to not include the whole of the area required to be reverted back. This is now back with Enforcement.

Members were advised about a member of the public's wish to have the permissive footpath that runs from Beach Mews and through Culmer's Amenity Land changed to a public right of way.

The public currently have unrestricted access along this pathway and CT10 Charities consider there is no necessity to make the transition. It was also noted that the start of the path is no longer as it was since the houses were built, so the twenty year requirement is not valid. The path has been realigned to move the permissive element to the side of the allotment fencing. There were no further discussions.

#### **35. MOCKETT'S WOOD**

i) The Committee received information regarding Mockett's Wood.

The Friends of Mockett's Wood continue with their amazing work within the woods.

There has been a spate of vandalism within the woods as well as some small fires. The new Beat Officer has been informed and will carry out foot patrols within these areas.

Some fly tipping has been found in a secluded area of the woods. Town Council Officers will remove this from the wooded areas, and, if the sofa remains in the farmer's field, will arrange for this to be removed also.

There is a possibility that there will be more trees affected with sooty bark this year. Any trees which potentially have this will be highlighted within the annual tree survey. Any necessary action will be taken.

Committee Members were keen to meet with the Volunteer's at Mockett's Wood. The Secretary has agreed for her email address to be passed on to Committee Members for arrangements to be made individually.

#### **36. PIERREMONT PARK GROUNDS**

i) The first part of trying to reduce down anti social behaviour within the Town Council grounds has taken place. The rockery and wooded area to the rear of it have been cleared and replaced with low growing varieties of plants that will also add colour to the area. The area beside the Music Room had a good amount of winter maintenance take place. Whilst this has produced fresh growth, the area is more visible. Bulbs will be planted in the Autumn to provide winter and spring colour within this area.

The central wooded area between the two entrances to Pierremont Hall will now need to be looked at. Cllr Pressland will put a plan together and the Senior Administrative Officer will arrange for a quote for the works, to be received at the next meeting to be held in October.

ii) Quotes were received for the replacement of the buxus hedging that had to be removed at the rear of Pierremont Hall due to being attacked and killed by caterpillars in the early spring.

It was agreed by all members that Cllr Pressland would inform the Senior Administrative Officer of an alternative solution. This will then be sent to the Grounds Maintenance Contractor for a quote which will be sent round to all Committee Members to agree.

**37. PIERREMONT PARK**

The committee received a quote for the removal of the buxus hedging within Pierremont Park which also had been affected by caterpillars. Cllr Pressland informed the committee that he had checked the hedging and it was still showing signs of life. Cllr Pressland and Cllr K Bright will contact the relevant officers at Thanet District Council to undertake works that will encourage future growth.

**38. FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023.

Agenda items to include: Open Allotment Tenants Meeting.

Meeting Closed at 8.22pm  
Senior Administrative Officer

DRAFT