



Broadstairs & St Peter's Town Council

ALLOTMENTS AND LAND COMMITTEE MINUTES Monday 23rd October 2023

Present: Cllrs J Bright, K Bright, J Hobson (Chair), K Pressland, S Roberts
Deputy Town Clerk: Julie Belsey
6 Allotment Plot Holders

39. 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.

40. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr E Orhan. These apologies were accepted.

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

42. ALLOTMENT HOLDERS' OPEN MEETING

A request was made for dogs to be allowed on the allotment sites. Following discussion, it was agreed that dogs will be allowed on site, however they must be kept on leads at all times, be well behaved and kept contained on the plot holders site only. This will be continuously reviewed with permission being withdrawn at any time should there be complaints from other plot holders. This item will also be added to future Allotments & Land Committee Agendas for review.

If any plot holders have any spare seeds/plants, Tasty Planters will be having a Free Giveaway and Share Afternoon on Saturday 25th November, between 2 – 3.30pm at The Scout Hut, Belvedere Road, Broadstairs.

Allotment Tenants left the meeting.

43. MINUTES

RESOLVED to RECEIVE and APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14th August 2023. Proposed Cllr Pressland, seconded Cllr K Bright, agreed.

44. MATTERS ARISING FROM THESE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

There were no matters arising.

45. NORMAN ROAD AND NASH GARDENS ALLOTMENTS*

i) The Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the inspection details of the allotments that took place in October. There were no major issues raised. TDC will be contacted, following the tree surveys, for removal of lower tree branches that are entering the allotment site at Norman Road.

Tree Surveys will be taking place shortly and they will be disseminated for members to agree works required.

ii) The Committee received an update on the allotment sites.

Non-recyclable waste removal will be arranged this financial year.

New plot holders are slowly tackling any overgrowth of their plots.

Thanet Wanderers have been asked to store their empty barrels in a more secure location as they were being used to climb on and enter the Norman Road allotments. They were not aware of this situation and have said that they will rectify it.

iii) The Committee AGREED to re-open the waiting lists for both allotment sites. This will be reviewed at the October 2024 meeting. There are currently 24 people on the Norman Road list and 26 people on the Nash Gardens list.

46. CULMERS AMENITY LAND*

- i) The Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the inspection details. There were no issues raised.
- ii) The application from 5 Beach Mews for their garden area to be reverted back to local green space has gone through Enforcement and the applicant has now taken this to the Planning Inspectorate.
- iii) Tree Surveys will be taking place shortly and they will be disseminated for members to agree works required.

47. MOCKETT'S WOOD

- i) The Committee RECEIVED and NOTED the inspection details. There were no issues raised.
- ii) The Committee were advised that the current Secretary of the Friends of Mockett's Wood would like to gradually take a back seat and eventually step down. They were also advised that there is a need for more Volunteers for the Friends.

The Secretary recently had a display at the St Peter's Village Hall Open Day to encourage more volunteers. This will also be taking place again on 4th November.

Suggestions made for the recruitment of more volunteers were as follows:

East Kent College has opened a Forest School
Secondary schools encourage students to volunteer
Scout Groups
Posters to go up on Noticeboards
Town Team
Kent Wildlife Trust
Kent Coast Volunteering

The Deputy Town Clerk will contact the Secretary of the Friends of Mockett's Wood and make arrangements to contact the above.

The Co-op will also be approached to see if a display stand can be put up at the St Peter's store.

- iii) Tree Surveys will be taking place shortly and they will be disseminated for members to agree works required.

48. PIERREMONT PARK GROUNDS

- i) A new quote was RECEIVED and previous quotes reviewed for the replacement of the hedging to the Portico area of Pierremont Hall.

It was AGREED that Option 4 from the previous quotes should go ahead:

Option 4. Ilex Crenata Caroline Upright

**To create new bed, rotovate, incorporate fresh compost & fertiliser; supply and plant
5no.plants/m 2L 20-30cm plants £1,925.00 + VAT**

The contractor will be asked to undertake this work in the new financial year. Members were made aware that there may be a slight increase in costs due to the time delay in putting this in place due to waiting for the new budget year.

- ii) A quote was RECEIVED to open up the central wooded area between the two entrances at the front of Pierremont Hall. This would allow better visibility and would hopefully deter anti social behaviour. Members agreed to the following quote, with a review to take place in a year to see if any further solutions are required.

Remove the hedge, opening the central woodland area; remove all waste

Supply & plant 450no. Narcissi varieties for a flowering period covering January – April; Varieties as follows; Rijnveld's Early Sensation, February Gold, Dutch Master and Golden Dawn. We will need to clear patches in the ivy to create bulb planting areas.

Price

£1,105.00 + VAT

Members agreed that approval should be sought to transfer money from unused budgets to allow this work to be undertaken in this financial year to allow bulbs etc to be ready for blooming In January onwards.

iii) Tree Surveys will be taking place shortly and they will be disseminated for members to agree works required.

49. ALLOTMENT AND LAND BUDGET 2024-25

Recommendations were made as follows for the 2024-25 Budget taking into account decisions made during this committee meeting.

Budget Area	2024/2025
Allotments – both sites general maintenance	£2,500
Culmers Amenity Land – Includes rent, grounds maintenance contract and sundry tree works	£10,000
Mockett's Wood – includes volunteer's grant which has been brought in-house, emergency tree works, additional tree maintenance on boundary with Church Court Grove and any additional contractor works due to reduction in volunteers.	£5,500
Tree Survey and Works – for the annual Tree Safety Inspections at Mockett's Wood, Pierremont Hall, Culmer's Amenity Land and Norman Road Allotments.	£3,400
Grounds Maintenance Sundries – for any additional expenses relating to maintenance of the grounds around Pierremont Hall and Culmer's Amenity Land.	£3,000
Pierremont Planting – for any additional planting required at Pierremont Hall.	£3,700
Pierremont Grounds Maintenance – for grounds maintenance Contract	£10,500

50. FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Next meeting will be held on 11th March 2024.

Meeting Closed at 8.22pm
Deputy Town Clerk