**NOTES OF A MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**Held on Wednesday 15th August 2018 at 6:00pm at Normanton Town Hall**

Present: Councillor Mrs M. Vickers

                             Councillor A. Wassell (Part meeting)

Public: Councillor F.D. Jones

Stuart Oxley – Cypress Road

Tanya Barnaby – Cypress Road

Mark Cowcill – Ellins Terrace 1 & 2

Steven Taber – Heys Buildings

Frank Crossland – Heys Buildings

Dave Hogarth – Newland Lane

Janet Sherratt – Wentworth Terrace

Absent: Councillor Mrs E. Blezard, Councillor S. Hudson, Councillor B. Mayne, Councillor Mrs P. Mayne, Councillor R. Seal, Councillor K. Wilson, JP.

The Town Clerk welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were recorded from Bernard Crossley of Newland Lane and Mike Darwin of Wentworth Terrace.

Members were reminded of the requirement to declare any interests and none were declared.

The minutes were deferred to a future meeting for approval, but all the issues contained would be raised later in the meeting.

Cypress Road reported that things were okay on site and there was an issue with a plot holder who had been asked to reduce. The Town Clerk reported that there were no vacancies and 14 on the waiting list.

There were 4 re-inspections to be carried out and one eviction due this week. Two skips had been provided following the inspections.

Ellins Terrace 1 reported that there was a new treasurer and signatory and the locks had recently been replaced. The new tenants were doing very well. There had been issues with people rough sleeping nearby and some break-ins on the roadside plots. The Town Clerk reported that there were 3 vacancies with 2 additional vacancies in the near future. There was one re-inspection due and 8 on the waiting list.

Ellins Terrace 2 reported that there was no site secretary and there are a few vacant plots, some of which were untenable due to weeds and fly tipping. The Town Clerk reported that there were 5 vacancies and 12 on the waiting list. The Town Clerk thanked Mark Cowcill for his support in managing Site 2 while a new Site Secretary was found.

Gladstone Street - The Town Clerk reported that there were 5 vacancies and 23 on the waiting list. One re-inspection was to be carried out which would probably lead to an eviction. There had been two skips provided following the inspection.

Heys Buildings reported that there was no Site Secretary and no vacancies. The Town Clerk reported that there were 14 people on the waiting list, a skip was due to be provided, and that they had won most improved site and thanked for their efforts.

Newland Lane reported that they had no vacancies and there had been some break-ins and overnight visitors in sheds. They had gained entry by climbing the new fence and had also set fire to the hedgerow.

Norwood Street – The Town Clerk reported that there was 1 vacancy and 7 on the waiting list and a skip had been provided since the inspections.

Wentworth Terrace reported that the site was doing well, and all the plots were let. There were 2 on the waiting list and some asbestos issues to be dealt with. The Town Clerk reported that there were 4 on the waiting list and quotes were ongoing for the asbestos removal.

Inspections were carried out in June/July and letters sent out to tenants within a few days to speed up the process. A summary can be provided to Site Secretaries but must not be pinned up on site or shared with other tenants due to new GDPR requirements.

The Town Clerk reminded members that break-ins should be reported to the Police. We can’t report it – it has to be the tenant.

It was reported that in 2017/18 we received income from allotments of £5,791 and spent £11,720. This expenditure included £2,060.00 of water bills, £1,658 on waste removal, and £8,535 on fencing.

We continue into 2018/19 with the same level of budget and no rent increases for 2019.

Tenants are asked to be responsible with water usage on all sites. The NSALG do not recommend the use of hose pipes and sprinklers as it does not direct water where it is required – to the base of the plant.

Finally, an update was given on the Horticultural Show and schedules made available.