

# LUDGERSHALL TOWN COUNCIL



## Minutes of the Allotment, Cemetery and Car Park Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Microsoft Teams at 7pm.

**Present:** Cllr J Langley (Chair), Cllr B Dance (Vice Chair), Cllr M Giles, Cllr C Giles, Cllr N Allingham,  
**Absent:** Cllr CA Moore.

### AGENDA ITEM

**031-20/21:** 1. Apologies – Cllr B Cordery. The Committee resolved to accept these and record under the LGA 1972 Section 99 and Sch 12 para 40.

**032-20/21:** 2. Declaration of Interest – none.

**033-20/21:** 3. Minutes of previous meeting held 16/03/2021 – ratified at FTC 13/04/2021. No comments were made.

**034-20/21:** 4. Allotments –

#### *i) Bell Street*

a) Update on new allotments rented and waiting list – Cllr J Langley advised that no plots have been re-let and none given up since the last meeting. There are 12 people waiting for a first plot and 5 waiting for a second plot.

b) Inspections – these were carried out in mid-April and 2 tenants have had a 1<sup>st</sup> warning letter and 3 have had a 2<sup>nd</sup> warning letter. One has been asked to remove non-allotment rubbish from their plot and the huge pile of fly tipping next to Plot 43 has been noted and a quote obtained to remove it - £200 if it is dry weight, but it will increase to £240 if it is wet. This quote was proposed for acceptance by Cllr J Langley, seconded by Cllr M Giles, all in favour. Office to instruct Contractor. All Cllrs also agreed that a letter needs to be sent to all tenants to advise that the Council have cleared the rubbish away on this occasion, but in future it will be chargeable.

c) Complaint re: Portaloo and barbecues – Admin advised that a local resident (not an allotment tenant) has made a complaint that a plot has installed a Portaloo and it should be removed. A photo had been taken by Cllr N Allingham and the item is very well concealed. An acknowledgement has been sent to the resident and the Committee discussed whether to change the Rules as currently nothing is stated in there regarding Portaloo's being allowed, or not. The Committee do not wish to amend the Rules at this stage and will permit the item to remain under advisement. Admin to notify the enquirer and the Plot holder in question. Regarding barbecues – again there is nothing in the Rules to forbid this and if other tenants are not complaining the Committee are happy to leave the Rules as they are. This also needs to be notified to the resident.

d) Rats – there are still rats on Plot 19 and the tenant has been contacted and they are going to speak to MB Pest Services directly to see what they can do to eradicate these pests. The Committee agreed that a new report should be done for both sites (like Admin did last year) using MB Pest Services – office to arrange.

e) Water trough behind Plot 15 – repair needed to valve. Admin advised that she and the Clerk have been trying to get hold of the Council's Preferred Plumber but have been unable to make contact with him. If he cannot be contacted LTC need to try someone else.

ii) Dewey's Lane –

a) Update on new allotments rented and waiting list – one plot has been re-let since the last report, no one else is giving up a plot. There are 12 people on the waiting list and 2 are waiting for a second plot.

b) Inspections - these were carried out in mid-April and one plot will be getting a 1<sup>st</sup> letter. There is another plot that was in a poor condition, but Admin had been advised that they have been working on the plot all the previous weekend, so no correspondence was sent.

**035-20/21: 5. Jubilee Garden** – the Committee discussed and agreed to keep the gardens closed for the time being. There was a suggestion that the use of the garden could be re-considered as Men's Shed have been approached by the NHS to build raised planters/troughs to help people suffering with mental health issues to get involved with gardening. LTC have also received similar requests before but there have been no available allotments for this purpose. The Committee all liked the idea of collaborating with Men's Shed and the NHS to work on this and once the new Committee are in place after the election this idea can be progressed.

- Fence damaged – Cllr J Langley advise that the fence has been damaged and it needs looking at; Cllr M Giles suggested asking Rob Whiting as he has previously done work to the Recreation Ground chain link fence and put in a new fence around Plot 34. Admin to make contact to arrange for a quote.

**036-20/21: 6. Car Park/Toilet** –

- a) CCTV update – Admin advised that due to the way the quotes evolved from the other two companies they have not ended up being “like for like” so she has contacted a large CCTV company and given them the information relating to what LTC would like (including the office alarm system). Once that has been received, she will send the specification back to the other two companies for new quotes, so the Council has 3 like for like quotes as required under the Transparency Code.

**037-20/21: 7. Cemetery** -

- a) Garden of Remembrance fencing quote update – Admin advised that she recently met with a company from Andover called Samar Engineering and the quote is awaited. Getting quotes has proved very difficult especially during lockdown and this will be updated again next month.

**038-20/21: 8. Wooden Picnic benches x 3 from Dewey's Lane play park** – can they be used, if so, where? The Committee discussed at length and decided that the Allotment Committee do not have anywhere to put them. Admin suggested that maybe the Memorial Hall could make use of them? Cllr B Dance will go and have a look and Cllr C Giles and Cllr M Giles will go along too. Once we know if the Memorial Hall would like them, they need to let LTC know so the new metal picnic benches can be ordered (there is a 6-8 week lead time).

**039-20/21: 9. Town planters and flower beds around War Memorial** – the new plants have been grown on and planted out by former Councillor - Owen White and Cllr J White. They look fantastic and the Committee asked for a Thank You letter to be sent out – Office to arrange.

**040-20/21: 10. Anti-social behaviour – reports** – There have been no reports of anti-social behaviour since December 2020.

**041-20/21: 11. Agenda Points to be discussed next month** – Quotes for work required following Tree Survey.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting was closed at 7.34pm.

The date of the next meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at the Church Hall, Ludgershall.

Signed.....

Date.....