

## WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 29 April 2015 at 6pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, Fore Street, Wellington.

**Present:** Councillors Lloyd (Chairman), Milton, Mitton, Sparrow and Stock-Williams.

Debbie Bere Assistant to the Town Clerk  
Greg Dyke Town Clerk

10 allotment tenants

#### 1. Apologies

Councillor Hunt

#### 2. Update on vacant plots and plots recently let.

It was reported that 3 plots had recently been re-let. 1 was now cleared and ready to re-let and 2 were in the process of being cleared.

#### 3. Inspections

Inspections had been carried out mid April on the site. Warning letters had almost all been sent out and feedback to tenants was also being sent out.

Councillor Mitton commented on the amount on nettles on some plots.

It was brought to the attention of the committee that tenants growing controlled patches of nettles may be doing so for cultivation and environmental purposes.

**Resolved** that **controlled** nettle patches be allowed as long as they were productive and were not having an impact on neighbouring properties.

#### 4. Water retention for green houses and polytunnels

Councillor Mitton commented on some very good examples of water retention put in place on greenhouses and polytunnels by tenants. However some plots lacked such methods.

Tenants felt that water retention systems were necessary however, some agreed that they could collect too much water and therefore it wasn't important to collect water from all of their greenhouses/sheds/polytunnels etc.

**Resolved** that a balanced and sensible approach be taken by both the committee and tenants when inspecting plots for water retention systems and putting them in place.

#### 5. Uncovered water butts

The committee agreed that on inspections they found that several plots had uncovered water butts. Tenancy agreements stated that these should be

covered. This was due to advice received from the National Allotment Association.

Tenants felt that this could be reevaluated.

**Resolved** that the National Allotment Association guidance be looked up and advice sought.

## **6. Security**

Tenants raised a concern for security. The use of the padlock by some tenants was questioned.

**Resolved** that the combination for the padlock be changes annually and tenants be given any new code with a fortnights notice.

The meeting ended at 6:45pm.