

## **WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Allotments Committee held on 19 September 2016 at 6pm in the Council Chamber, 28 Fore Street, Wellington.**

Present: Councillor Mrs Lloyd (Chair)

Councillor James

11 allotment tenants were also present

Gill Croucher (Assistant to the Town Clerk)

#### **1. Apologies**

Councillors Critchard and Stock-Williams

#### **2. Competition 2016 Results**

The winners of the recent Competition were as follows:-

Best Managed: Plot 30 (prize one year rent free)

Highly Commended: Plot 6

Most Ecological: Plot 14 (prize one year rent free)

Highly Commended: Plot 16

Best Newcomer: Plot 72 (prize one year rent free)

Highly Commended: Plots 84 and 93

Best Cultivated Plot 73 (prize one year rent free)

Highly Commended: Plots 25/26

Due to the general high standard of the allotments, Highly Commended certificates had been awarded in each category (two for Best Newcomer!) and had been presented to the winners at the September Council meeting.

#### **3. Update on Inspections**

Feedback from the recent inspections was reported. Generally the plots were in very good shape but action would be taken in accordance with the recommendations made by the inspection teams.

#### **4. Disabled Persons Plots**

A number of people were now interested in taking over the vacant disabled plot. However, the wooden raised beds may need to be renewed and maintained for ease of access. The plots were generously developed by David Capell in 2011 and were specifically designed for wheelchair users.

It was agreed the condition and requirements of the plot should be reassessed by the officers, the Chairman and with the help of Mr Capell.

#### **5. Badgers**

A number of tenants had reported that badgers had again accessed plots and caused severe damage to crops and fences. A number of various ways of dealing with the situation were suggested by some of the tenants present. It was recognised that some of the suggestions were not practically feasible or would prove to be too expensive. It was agreed to:-

(a) speak to the adjoining land owner regarding the possibility of fencing;

(b) look into the possibility of a suitable electric fence;

#### **6. Wildlife**

There had been a number of incidents of wildlife getting trapped under plastic/nylon netting used to cover plots. Tenants would be asked to be mindful when using these covers.

#### **7. Any items tenants may wish to raise**

- (a) the entrance gate needed attention;
- (b) the hedges and pathways were ready for trimming and cutting;
- (c) the trees adjoining plot 47 needed to be looked at;
- (d) a suitable way needed to be found to deal with the collection of water at the entrance to the allotments.

#### **8. Date of next meeting**

Monday 13 February 2017 at 6pm.

The meeting ended at 6.55 pm