



CHILTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Chilton Town Council Allotment
held at Hutton House, Chilton, County Durham, on
Monday 19th June 2023.

Chairman: *Councillor S. Sutherland*

Present: *E. Bruce, V. Collinson, P. Malpas.*

In attendance: **Cllr. J. Houlihan**

Mr. J. Robinson Town Clerk

Members of the public: 2 members of the public present

ALL16.0/23. APOLOGIES

Cllr. A. Bruce (ill health).

ALL17.0/23 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Nil.

ALL18.0/23 MEMBER DISPENSATION

None.

ALL19.0/23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following issues were raised by tenants: -

- a. Fly Tipping remains an issue across all sites.
 - b. Still concern re. future of LIVIN allotments and garage site. Town Clerk advised Officers at LIVIN have assured the Town Council they have no current plans to close either site.
 - c. Concern raised regarding fencing on WCT and all the fencing along Prospect Terrace site. Later having been completed in 2018. Chairman advised next fencing project when funding available will be the 2 WCT sites.
- concern expressed regarding land owned by Town Council on Rushyford Drive estate and possibility of Mares Tale being present. Town Clerk advised S.E. Landscape to have been asked to cut back the area and treat for same.

ALL20.0/23 MINUTES OF MAY MEETING

No issues were raised by members.

ALL21.0/23 REPORT ON ANNUAL EASE RENEWAL

It was noted as of 1ST June 2023 7 tenants are still to pay their renewal for current year.

ALL22.0/23 REPROT ON CURRENT VACANT PLOTS

It was noted there are currently 7 vacant plots and a number awaiting confirmation of acceptance by prospective tenants.

ALL23.0/23 PLAYGROUNDS

Cllr. S. Sutherland advised DCC have agreed to undertake relevant repairs to the Rushyford and Queen Elizabeth II sites. Members expressed concern that a piece of equipment had been so easily destroyed by youths, one which had only recently been installed. DCC have agreed to reinstate and ensure it will not be so easily destroyed again.

ALL24.0/23 LITTER BINS

It was agreed to purchase 7 litter bins out of the grant from Cllr. J. Carins and to agree the sites at the next meeting.

ALL25.0/23 MEMBER/TENANT LISAON ROLE

Following the resignation of Cllr. P. Davies a review of allocation was required: -
Prospect Terrace Cllr. S. Sutherland
Hambleton Way Cllr. E. Bruce
WCT1 Cllr. P. Malpas
WCT2 Cllr. J. Houlihan

It was agreed elected members recruit and inform Town Clerk of the tenant representatives to enable a meeting to be called in August.

ALL25.0/23 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Cllr. P. Malpas proposed seconded Cllr. V.Collinson and agreed to exclude due to the nature of business to be transacted both press and public.

ALL 26.0/23 NOTICE TO QUIT

The Town Clerk presented the finance officers report regarding tenants not renewing their 2023 tenancy. It was proposed Cllr. S. Sutherland seconded Cllr. V.Collinson to proceed to recommend to Full Council to proceed with the Notice to Quit Policy. This was agreed.

ALL27.0/23 REPORT FROM SMALL CLAIMS ISSUES

Members received an up-to-date report on current situation.

ALL 28.0/23 ALLOTEMNT ALLOCATION UPDATE

Members received an up-to-date report in respect of current allocations. Report noted.

ALL29.0/23 CONFIRMATION OF REPAIR/RENEWAL PROGRAMME

Members consider a list of outstanding fencing/gate repairs. It was agreed Chair and Vice Chair undertake a site visit to ascertain what is required and prices be obtained for the July meeting. Included in this process quotes for asbestos removal from sites.

ALL30.0/23 STREET FURNITURE

Cllr. S. Sutherland reported on an individual basis he had reported to DCC on their Do it Online site street furniture across the centre of the Town. Town Clerk advised DCC had contacted him saying it was Town Council Street furniture. It was identified as clearly belonging to DCC and they had been advised it was their furniture.

ALL 31.0/23 TENANT COMPLAINT

Before dealing with this matter Cllr. S. Sutherland reminded members of the Code of Conduct and asked if any member wished to declare an interest. No member did.

Members considered a complaint from a tenant regarding behaviour of another tenant towards them. It was agreed to write out to all members of Council and set up an Investigation committee to investigate the situation and report back. Complainant to be advised of same.

ALL 32.0/23 TENANT COMPLAINT RE INSPECTION LETTER

Members considered a letter commenting on inspection procedure. Agreed to write and thank them and advise the tenant of the need for inspections/policy.

ALL33.0/23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be held Monday 17th July at 10.30am in Hutton House.

Signed: -

Mayor of Chilton
11th July 2023