

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE, HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER 2010, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
KING'S HOUSE, THETFORD, STARTING AT 6 P.M.

Present:

Councillor A Paines, Acting Chairman
The Mayor, Councillor Mrs P P Quadling

Councillor:

G P Balaam

182/10 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor G P Balaam acknowledged his personal interest as a Bury Road allotment holder.

183/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from the Committee Chairman, Councillor M G Spencer, and Councillors J A Harding and T J Lamb.

184/10 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Committee's meeting held on 9th June 2010 (as received by the Council at its meeting on 30th June 2010 under minute 86/10a) be confirmed as a true record and signed/initialled by the Acting Chairman.

185/10 FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE YEAR TO DATE

The Finance Manager had prepared a report, which had been included in the agenda papers and gave rise to various comments.

In passing, it was reported that the Thetford Garden and Allotment Club had been unable, after all, to source any funding for improved site security at the Bury Road site. The Town Clerk made note and would look into the cost of erecting new fencing.

186/10 ALLOTMENT INSPECTION

A discussion ensued, arising out of the previous day's site visits. A number of letters would be being sent, including some Notices to Quit.

A request had been received by the Committee Chairman from the locally based Norfolk County Council officer with responsibility for the 'Buddy Group', who were in the process of establishing a plot on the Mundford Road site. The Group included a wheelchair user and access to the plot was over uneven terrain. Rather than agree to the officer's request for a pathway upgrade, the Chairman's view was that

offering the Group an alternative, more accessible plot at the Croxton Road end of the site would a better option; the Committee supported that view.

187/10 RESPONSE TO LETTER

The response from the tenant of plots MR 66 and 73 was noted. There remained a couple of outstanding issues, which would be the subject of a further letter.

188/10 LETTER FROM MUNDFORD ROAD ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

A letter, proposing a larger clubhouse, had been received. It was agreed that the Town Clerk would, as a first step, make some preliminary, informal enquiries of the planning authority to determine whether, in light of the dimensions indicated, a planning application would be required.

189/10 MANAGEMENT AND LAYOUT OPTIONS FOR RAMSEY CLOSE SITE

Breckland Council had yet to reach a formally binding decision on whether to transfer the land into the Town Council's ownership.

The idea of having a communal shed was put forward by the Chairman of The Thetford Garden and Allotment Club as an attractive, space-saving measure. The need for on-site vehicular parking was raised, but no firm view resulted.

Chairman