

# **OWPC Patch Allotments Bi-monthly report pre-May** **2015 P.C. meeting**

## **Boundary Security**

All three gates have been clad with 2.4 metre palisade. Stretches of palisade have been erected to the sides and in between the Western gates and to the South of the main Eastern gates.

## **Plot Staking**

The first tranche of stakes have been cut, sealed and are ready for numbering and staking.

## **Ridings Repairs**

The Community Workers chaperoned by G4S, are continuing to assist the PAA to repair stretches of the ridings using the planings from the Newport Road road works.

## **Plot Rentals**

We propose to raise the basic rental by 5% to 24.78p per sq. metre.

We propose to raise the OWPC resident discount from 19% to 20%.

We propose to remove the remaining 5% discount currently enjoyed by WCC residents.

The average effect of the above will be to raise rents by about £1.

## **Uncultivated Plot Letters**

Following an inspection by all three members of the Allotment Team immediately after Easter on the 7<sup>th</sup> April, letters were sent concerning the lack of discernible cultivation to the holders of 40 plots. A follow up inspection will be made during the next week and if little or no improvement has been made, and the tenant has not contacted us with a valid **exuserreason**, we will issue conditional termination letters executable 40 days later. Since the letters were sent there has been noticeable activity on many plots.

## **Bees**

A request has been received for the revival of the bee co-operative. Two tenants, who are already experienced beekeepers are taking formal bee keeping qualification. They are to produce a detailed proposal and hope that the co-operative can be up and running from the beginning of June.

Currently it is envisaged that approximately 20 x 10 metres of land in the NW corner be allocated to the project and that up to 10 hives will eventually be on site.

**We very much support this revival of beekeeping on the Patch site and propose that the Parish match funds towards the start-up costs to a maximum of £150.**

## **Plot occupancy**

Very few vacant plots are now available and we are still getting further enquiries.

## Financial Statement year-to-date

Maintenance Expenditure 2014--15	Budget	Actual to date
Legal costs transfer of title	0	350
Anglian Water	1500	806
Grass cutting	800	250
Vacant plot clearance @ £25 per plot	1750	0
Cut flower meadow	150	0
Postage x 3	280	217
Stationery	75	0
Printing	75	44
Skip	210	175
Pest control	200	0
NSALG membership	55	55
Maintenance, troughs and associated plumbing	250	64
Security maintenance, boundary, locks	250	35
Discretionary items e.g. open days	250	100
Insurance re hut	150	274
Compostable toilet consumables	250	13
Rubbish clearance	0	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>6245</b>	<b>2453</b>

### Capital Expenditure 2014/5

Aggregate and cement for Ridings	550	0
Re-staking including labour (£2k)	2000	413
Boundary Security (ex-planting budget £2,000, ex-palisading budget £2870 b/f from 2013/14)	4870	0
One-off West boundary tree pruning	800	0
Rights of way legal costs	0	0
Lockable post box	200	0
Noticeboard	650	616
Toilet storage bins – paving slabs	40	0
Containers	2500	2561
<b>Total</b>	<b>11610</b>	<b>3590</b>