

OWPC Patch Allotments Bi-monthly report pre-March

2016 P.C. meeting

Plot occupancy

Ten plots, all but one on the boundary, are vacant at the time of writing. We currently have a waiting list of a similar number of prospective tenants. We are working through the list now.

Plot Staking

One session of staking has taken place since the last meeting. It is hoped that more will follow, assuming the weather cooperates.

Water Borehole

New project to investigate viability of a water bore hole, current best estimate ~£15,000 with savings of approximately £800 p.a. PAA are currently seeking grants of £5,000 from ourMK and £5,000 from the Community Foundation.

Les Burgess secured a £750 grant from the Open University to carry out a geological survey. He then sent a copy to five different drilling companies for their feedback and to provide an estimate of drilling costs. Two have replied so far. One has said that they didn't think sufficient water would be supplied to meet our estimated needs. The other said it would be willing to drill, but the cost would be around £11,000. As he hasn't heard from the other 3 companies yet, he has sent a copy of the geological survey to a sixth company in the last week. These responses are disappointing and there now seems considerable doubt about the viability of the scheme.

Devolved Management

An initial meeting has taken place between OWPC and the PAA about the prospect of devolved management of the allotments by the PAA. A draft agreement documenting the responsibilities of each party has been drawn up and this will be further discussed on the 11th March. Under consideration is the process to seeking agreement of the tenants for this proposal and the timetable of that process.

Financial Statement

Two items, Hut Insurance ~£180 and Rubbish Clearance (for such items as tyres) ~£100 were omitted by error from the 15/16 maintenance budget.

	Budget	Actual to date
Maintenance Expenditure 2015--16		
Anglian Water	1575	301
Grass cutting	800	250
Vacant plot clearance @ £25 per plot	1000	0
Cut flower meadow	150	0
Postage x 3	287	124
Stationery	79	12
Printing	75	63
Skip	221	220
Pest control	100	0
NSALG membership	56	55
Maintenance, troughs and associated plumbing	250	10
Security maintenance, boundary, locks	250	80
Discretionary items e.g. open days	250	250
Compostable toilet consumables	250	73
Insurance re hut	0	154
Rubbish Clearance (tyres etc)	0	0
Total	5343	1592
 Capital Expenditure		
Aggregate and cement for Ridings (b/f from 14/15)	550	0
Re-staking including labour (£1,587 b/f from 14/15)	3655	345
Boundary Security (ex-planting budget £2,000, ex-palisading budget £2870 b/f from 2013/14)	4870	3122
One-off West boundary tree pruning (b/f from 14/15)	800	0
Lockable post box (b/f from 14/15)	200	0
Toilet storage bins – paving slabs	80	0
Total	10155	3467