

GAINSBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a Meeting of the Management and Finance Committee held at Richmond House, Morton Terrace, Gainsborough on Tuesday 17 September 2013 at 7:01pm

Present: Councillor Paul Key (Chairman)

Councillor Matthew Boles
Councillor Vaughan Hughes
Councillor Lesley Rollings

In Attendance:

Matthew Gleadell Clerk to the Council
Rachel Allbones Assistant Clerk to the Council

Also in Attendance: Councillor John Butler

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND REASONS GIVEN

Councillor Richard Craig
Councillor Norman Dinsdale

RESOLVED to receive the apologies for absence and accept the reasons given.

2. TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 AND TO RECEIVE ANY APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

Councillor Hughes declared a non pecuniary interest in agenda item 4iv as a Love Lane allotment plot holder.

3. RANSOMES 2250

The Clerk issued Members with other options regarding lease hire and hire purchase of machinery.

Note: Councillor Dobbie arrived at 7:24pm.

Members considered the information provided but were of the view that repairing the Councils current machine would be more feasible at this present time, and to ensure all staff comply with a daily maintenance routine for machinery which the Clerk confirmed he felt he could organise some training for the ground staff at no cost to the Council.

RESOLVED to repair the Ransomes 2250 at a cost of up to £3,000.00 and produce a Daily Maintenance Compliance record for all machine users to sign off following use of grass cutting machinery.

4. TO CONSIDER ALLOTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET FOR 2014 / 2015

- i. Spital Hill Allotments
- ii. Foxby Hill Allotments
- iii. Showfield Allotments
- iv. Love Lane Allotments
- v. North Warren Allotments

Some Members were of the view that all sites should have water provided. Showfield have a well, Foxby Hill and Spital Hill currently have water provided through their secretary and charged directly from the secretary to the plot holders. Love Lane and North Warren currently do not have any water provision.

The projected income and expense to the Council with rent and skips expenditure included was noted on Paper A.

5. TO CONSIDER PRIORITISATION OF ALLOTMENT EXPENDITURE REQUIREMENTS FOR 2014/2015

(Paper A)

The Clerk went through Paper A and advised Members he had visited each site.

Councillor Butler advised that it would be more beneficial for North Warren Allotments to have a hawthorn and blackthorn hedge planted instead of a security fence along the rear boundary.

Councillor Dobbie expressed his concern with regards to the asbestos on the sites.

Councillor Key advised that he is trained through WLDC to remove asbestos sheeting.

Members also raised concerns with the knotweed on North Warren Allotments and that it hadn't been dealt with sooner in conjunction with Lincolnshire County Council.

Councillor Butler advised that a glysohate weed killer will kill off knotweed.

RESOLVED to delegate to the Clerk authority to deal with all costed items on Paper A including a new notice board for each site, to get an asbestos survey carried out and ask WLDC as a good will gesture if their staff can remove the asbestos, also the Clerk to investigate purchasing hawthorn and blackthorn hedgerow plants for sites that require gaps in boundaries to be filled. Such work highlighted on Paper A that could be done within agreed Allotment budgets for the current financial year to be organised by the Clerk.

The meeting concluded at 8:27pm

Chairman