

Allotment & Environment Committee

2nd December 2025 6.30pm

Town Council Offices, Kingsway, Bishop Auckland

Present: Cllr Michael Siddle (Chair), Cllr Elliott, Fox, Harker and L Zair.

Also Present: Sarah Harris (Clerk) and Vicki Booth (Deputy Clerk) and 5 members of the public

AEC027/25 - Apologies for absence – Cllr Legge

Resolved: that the members noted and accepted the apologies

AEC028/25- Declaration of Interest - no declarations were made.

Resolved: that no declarations were made.

AEC029/25 – Action Log Update was given

Resolved: that members noted the updates

AEC030/25- Allotments

a) **Allotment landscape** – that a general overview was given regarding allotments

Resolved: that members noted the update

b) **Tenancies** – an update was given regarding the outstanding tenancies

Resolved: that members noted the update

c) **Site Works** - the Deputy Clerk gave an overview of the works in progress at each site.

Resolved: that members noted the update

d) **Rules & Regulations** – the Clerk gave a proposal of a maximum of 6 cockerels allowed per tenant for Tindale site only and for the rules to reflect this. That Woodhouse tenants who want to keep cockerels can look to be relocated where possible to Tindale.

Resolved: that members voted, 3 agree, 1 rejected, 1 abstained. Cockerels subject to special permissions will be allowed at Tindale Crescent Site only.

AEC0031/25 – Environment

a) **Environment Working Group** – the Clerk gave a summary of the working group and how everyone is enthusiastic about working together and how they intend to move forward.

Resolved: that members were pleased with the working group and look forward to progressing forward.

b) **Floral Displays** – the budget has been agreed. But still awaiting planter quote for additional planters as hanging basket alternative.

Resolved: that members noted the update, and Cllr Fox offered as DCC member to raise the issue via member support to get a faster response.

AEC0032/25 Public Participation -

Rule re insurance not being mandatory did you anticipate not want to join association so output from that is 83 members and 10 who didn't sign up. If not a member don't have a responsibility.

Resolved: that members agreed to put some information together to show what an association does, including cutting of communal areas and what the benefits of being a member are to circulate to all tenants.

AEC0033/25 Exclusion of the press and public

Resolved: that Members agreed that was agreed to exclude the Press and Public In accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, as amended by Section 100 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Council do now exclude the press and public for the remaining item on the agenda by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest. No press or public were in attendance.

AEC0034/25 – member noted the report regarding the sale of de-designated land.

Resolved: that the members noted the report and agreed the stance of the Policy and Resources Committee