

**MINUTES OF THE ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE OF CHOPPINGTON PARISH
COUNCIL WEDNESDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2018 IN THE PARISH COUNCIL
OFFICES**

Members present:

Cllr H Allsopp
Cllr J Rowell
Cllr P S Vaughan
Cllr L Watson

In attendance:

Mr D L Nicholson Parish Clerk, Mrs A Brindley Deputy Parish Clerk and 5 members of the public.

A009/18 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies were received from Cllr E A Barrell, Cllr J Foster (prior commitment), Cllr G Huntley (prior commitment) and Cllr K Grimes (prior commitment). The meeting accepted these are acceptable reasons for absence.

**A010/18 2. MEMBERS' DECLARATION OF DISCLOSABLE
PECUNIARY AND OTHER REGISTERABLE
INTEREST(S).**

No declarations were made.

A011/18 3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS.

Tenants attending the meeting drew attention to the following:

1. The lock on north gate is difficult to operate
2. Advisory keep clear notices have been requested for the north and south allotment entrances.
3. Tenants advised that they were frequently having to replace bolts in the perimeter security fencing. The meeting expressed its gratitude for this and stressed that the Parish Council will supply any required materials.
4. The Parish Council was asked to source cheap scaffold boards for the construction of raised beds.
5. Tenants reported that some of the insulated water boxes needed repair.

Responding to the issues raised the Parish Clerk assured the meeting that all matters would be attended to and reported to the next meeting.

A012/18 4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2018.

The minutes were accepted as being a true record of proceedings with the Chairman being authorised to sign as such.

A013/18 5. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING.

There were no matters arising.

A014/18 6. PARISH CLERK'S REPORT.

1. LETTINGS

The Deputy Parish Clerk reported that during the last season 2 sites were classed as vacant. In general, there is reduced demand for allotments and vacancies will be advertised locally in the new year.

2. Garden Fires – a consultation

Following on from the discussion on allotment fires at the last committee meeting, The Parish Clerk suggested that as an alternative to a blanket ban on allotment fires a new rule would allow garden fires on 1 day per week throughout the year. Tenants and members of the Parish Council supported this suggestion. The current policy prohibits fires when the wind is blowing towards neighbouring properties. The Parish Clerk was asked to investigate the cost of purchasing two weathervanes.

RESOLVED: Garden fires will only be permitted on Wednesday's for a trial period of 1 year. Fires will be allowed only when the wind is blowing away from local housing.

The meeting closed at the conclusion of this item, there being no further business to be transacted.

Chairman

Date