



ALLOTMENTS WORKING GROUP – NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON 29TH
FEBRUARY 2024 IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE, 10 HEADLANDS,
KETTERING

Present: Cllrs James Towns (Chair) Carolyn Carter and Keli Watts (KTC)
Russell Attwood and Mike Thurland (Kettering Allotments Association)
Claire Humphrey, and Keith (South End Allotment Association)
Martin Hammond KTC Clerk

Item Number	Description
1	<p>Introductions and apologies</p> <p>No apologies – Cllr Watts would have to leave shortly after 7pm.</p>
2	<p>Review of Initiatives during 2023</p> <p>The principal works to allotments during 2023 were reviewed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Windmill Avenue fencing £16,800 completed and everyone very satisfied. Security and sense of security at the sites had greatly improved.b) Removal of asbestos at Margaret Road allotments - £830 – Town Lottery Grant – again, satisfactorily completed for less than expected cost.c) Tree surgery, Northfield Avenue, - completed by NNC as they were mostly highway trees that needed attention, works undertaken recently.d) Love Wildlife grants at South End Allotments.<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Night garden - Butterfly Moth and Bat enrichmentb. Nesting bird habitatsThese two projects were due to be completed shortly having been delayed by illness. Claire to send over photos of completed works to Russell and Martin for wider promotion. .e) Emergency fence repairs at South End Allotments – carried out very quickly this time last year.
3	<p>Outstanding actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Clearance of land at Scott Rd – not very urgent but MH to chase Probation who had said the works were on their forward work programme about 9 months agob) Tree maintenance by Southfield School, South End Allotments. MH to try new contact at Southfield

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	<p>c) Flailer deployment at southern end of South End Allotments – less urgent now, but still needs the land properly clearing of overgrown area and building detritus from adjacent site,</p>
4	<p>Priorities for 2024/5</p> <p>Two priorities were discussed;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fencing Northfield Avenue near Rothwell Rd bridge. Two quotes had already been obtained by KAS and the cheapest was £8000. The works consisted of replacing up to 139 yards of deteriorating fencing with wire mesh fencing (as per Windmill Ave) to prevent trespass and fly tipping. There was a separate need to replace the gate at the southern end of the site, opposite the Meadow Rd junction, but it was agreed that this was less urgent.- Brook clearance, South End Allotments. The brook blocked easily because of compacted materials on the bank, and given the wider topography of Kettering, the brook here tended to collect quite a lot of detritus from the watercourse up stream. <p>AGREED to explore costs and potential contractors in more detail for both projects and submit to Finance Committee in April.</p>
5	<p>Seed exchanges in 2024</p> <p>The Town Council had agreed to sponsor two seed exchanges, one by Groundwork in May and one by KAS in September. The KAS date for their wider event for allotment holders was now fixed for 27th September.</p>
6	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Contact details for South End on KAS website – Russell agreed to change the description for South End.b) Frenches Field – no prospect in the medium term of this site being developed for the football club.
	Meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed.....

Date.....