



REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- FC23/021

Committee:-	Finance and Governance Committee
Date:-	19 th July 2023
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Additional works to Fencing at Windmill Ave Allotments
Wards Affected:-	Pipers Hill

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval for some additional works to be completed at Windmill Ave allotments.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that additional works, totalling £1192, be committed to the Windmill Avenue allotments, as set out below, and that the cost is met from the community infrastructure budget.

3. Information

- 3.1. The fencing replacement works at Windmill Avenue allotments were completed in late June and some positive publicity has been generated.
- 3.2. On completion of the work, it became clear that two further elements would be advisable
 - a) Gravel boards fitted to the foot of the new fencing, to stop soil escaping onto the footpath from the allotment site
 - b) A half height fence at the entrance to the allotment site to replace a wooden fence which had rotted separating the nearest allotment from the entrance path.
- 3.3. Quotes were obtained from the contractor for this extra work and he has quoted £1486.66 plus VAT, comprising
 - Gravel boards £972
 - Half height fence £294
 - Skip £220

- 3.4. The Allotment Association will pick up the cost of the half height fence so the total charge for the gravel boards will be £1192 plus VAT.

4. Consultation and Engagement

Local allotment association officials were party to the discussions about the need for gravel boards and a half height fence and were in agreement that they ought to be provided.

5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1. The costs to date of the fence replacement works is £15990, which is being met from the allotments cost centre (£10,000) and the community infrastructure cost centre (£6000).
- 5.2. Any further spending can only come from the community infrastructure cost centre. Currently, £178 has been spent, with a total commitment of £17000 for the rest of this year against it. It could therefore bear this additional £1200 cost whilst leaving a small amount remaining.
- 5.3. It does not make sense to seek competitive quotes of this work, given the contractor's knowledge of what needs to be done, to a site they are now familiar with.

6. Climate change implications

None directly

7. Policy Implications

The Council is committed to investment in its allotments estate.

Background Papers

Quotes from Make Woodworking

