



REPORT FOR DECISION

Item No:- FC22/081

Committee:-	Finance and Governance Committee
Date:-	29 th March 2023
Author:-	Martin Hammond, Clerk
Report Title:-	Windmill Avenue Allotment Fencing
Wards Affected:-	Pipers Hill

1. Purpose of Report

To seek approval to award the contract for fencing to the Windmill Avenue allotments.

2. Recommendations

That assuming members wish to proceed with the works on the basis of the quotes received

- a) the quote from company a below be accepted.
- b) The works be funded as set out in para 5.3 below

3. Information

3.1. At its meeting on 25th January this committee agreed to seek quotes for the replacement of fencing at Windmill Avenue.

3.2. Three companies were asked to quote but, despite frequent reminders, only one did so:-

Make Woodworking	£14139.50
------------------	-----------

4. Consultation and Engagement

The fencing was identified, in conjunction with the allotment association, as a priority for the allotments cost centre

Neighbouring properties to the allotment site will need to be consulted on the proposed fencing and a planning application will need to be submitted.

5. Finance, Legal and Resource Implications

5.1. The gross budget for allotments in 2023-4 is £6215; which relies on income of £1215. There is the potential for additional income of £2500 for an easement across Northfield Avenue allotments, but that cannot be guaranteed to arrive in the time available, and set against that is a fee of £950 for registration of allotments.

5.2. In 2022/23, there was expenditure of £2192 against a gross budget of £5215, meaning that £3023 had been added to reserves.

5.3. A potential way of meeting the cost of the works is as follows:-

£6200 - taken from the allotments budget for 23-34 (this will mean no other works can be planned in elsewhere for the estate)

£3000 - drawn from reserves

£5000 - drawn from the community infrastructure budget which stands at £20,000 at the start of the year.

£14200

5.4. If the easement money arrives in year, that can help replenish the allotments budget or be taken as part recompense for the withdrawal of funds from reserves or the community infrastructure fund.

5.5. This committee has authority to approve this contract award, as the amount is less than £15000

6. Climate change implications

6.1. The Council's policy is to support the provision and therefore the security, of allotments as a positive contribution to health and wellbeing and the growth of local produce.

7. Policy Implications

As above

Background Papers

Quotes received

Specification presented to January meeting

Minutes of F&G Ctte 25th January 2023