**WIGTON TOWN COUNCIL**

**A MEETING OF THE PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

**WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH 2024 AT 6.00PM**

**PRESENT** Councillors Hamblin, Clark and Scott.

**POA/44/2024 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES & RECORD REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor McCarthy

Councillor Hodson

**POA/45/2024 TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

To approve the minutes of the Parks, Open Spaces and Allotment minutes from 23rd January 2024 – **AGREED.**

**POA/46/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST/DISPENSATIONS**

None

**POA/47/2024 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

None

**POA/48/2024 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**POA/49/2024 REVIEW PREVIOUS ACTIONS – APPENDIX 1**

Discuss at the next meeting if the message from signage has been followed. Signage at Wigton Park needs to be erected, as do the goal posts. Was also decided to leave the Alder trees at Throstle Park.

Cllr Hamblin was to investigate replacing Beech tree with an Oak tree in November time. Cllr Clark to enquire about Oak trees at Wigton Hospital.

The assistant Clerk presented two quotes for the asbestos removal and disposal from plot 1 at Burnfoot. The first quote was for £500 + VAT from West Coast Thermals, and the second quote was from Ben Ireton for £300.

All in favour for the lower costing option.

**POA/50/2024 ALLOTMENTS**

**8.1 To decide what should happen to plot 51 and plot 53 at Longthwaite site.**

It was discussed to wait until the first inspection in April to make a decision. The plots are fit to be let out; however, they do need split. Cllr Clark mentioned the plots don’t receive much sunlight so may put people off renting them, but it would be too costly and high maintenance to have as shrub areas.

Cllr Scott mentioned the plots being used for someone to keep bees – would look into this for next meeting.

**8.2 To discuss and agree on a tenant’s request for a reimbursement.**

A section of minutes from January 2023 were looked at regarding plot 4 having their fence repaired by WTC.

It was discussed what categorises as the perimeter fencing and whether it means front and back, or just the outside area of the piece of land – also if the Council take financial responsibility for all those. There were then concerns that it isn’t considered in the budget for damages with the fences.

Cllr Clark suggested it to be brought to Full Council due to its big financial impact – no decision made.

Assistant Clerk to make an enquiry to an allotment association regarding responsibility when it comes to fencing.

**8.3 To discuss and review current allotment rules**

The mention of re-entry must stay in the rules as it is written in the Allotment Act.

Assistant Clerk could send the rules to an allotment association to get a professional opinion.

**POA/51/2024 WIGTON PARKS**

**9 To provide and discuss any updates regarding the parks**

Tender from last time will more than likely have increased and it needs to be revisited as to what is wanted before it goes out to tender. There may be other grants or pots that we can approach.

Aim for completion to be by Party in the Park

**Meeting ended 8:09pm**

**Date of next meeting: TBC**