

# BRICKHILL

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## PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting of the Allotments & Open Spaces Committee held on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February at Brickhill Community Centre, Avon Drive, Brickhill

**Present:** Cllrs Bowler, Chrusciak, and Holloway and the Assistant Clerk. In addition there were 2 members of the public.

1	<b>Apologies for absence</b> Cllr Reeve – <b>it was resolved</b> to accept the apologies.	
2	<b>Declarations of acceptance of interest in items on the agenda</b> None	
3	<b>Public Open Session</b> A member of the public highlighted a concern with a Wasp's nest. She was advised that this would be a matter for the allotment holder to deal with in the first instance.	
4	<b>To confirm minutes from meeting held on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b> <b>It was resolved</b> to accept the minutes as a true record of the meeting.	
5	<b>To receive a report on the management of Brickhill allotments</b> The report was noted. Currently there are 6 vacant plots, 2 of these are awaiting clearance by the allotments contractor. A skip will be provided to tenants on Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March. An allotments newsletter was distributed to all tenants in February which outlined the councils' plans to alter the renewal date. From October 2016 tenants will be invoiced for 6 months then on 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2017 tenants will be invoiced for the full year. This would bring the allotment budget in line with the financial year and allow spend against budget to be monitored more effectively. There would be no increase in allotment rents from September 2016.	
6	<b>To note the spend against budget for Brickhill allotments</b> The maintenance reserve of £1200 for 2015-16 would be unspent and this would be transferred to designated reserves. Overall the year end forecast indicates an underspend against budget.	
7	<b>To consider correspondence received from Bedford Borough Council to transfer land (following demolition of allotment storage hut) to Brickhill PC</b> Work to demolish the storage huts was now complete and the parish council has been offered the land. This could be used to provide additional parking spaces for allotment tenants and also visitors to the Scout Hut. Minor remedial works would be required to bring the area to a satisfactory standard including two low level tarmac ramps and a safety rail between the two levels. The Borough had provided an estimate of £1968 for the work to be carried out. <b>It was resolved</b> to accept the transfer of land but the council would ask an alternative contractor to quote for the works. Members were advised that the remainder of the roadway was owned by Bedford Borough Council. The roadway is in a very poor state and it does not get repaired because it is not adopted highway. Whilst not	Assistant Clerk

