# **KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL**

#### Notice of Meeting

#### ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE

#### Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7.00 p.m. (Via Zoom)

#### **Committee Membership (6 Members)**

Alvin Finch (Chair & Mayor)	Dave Miles (Vice Chair)	Giles Archibald		
Michele Miles	Stephen Coleman	Carol Hardy		

#### AGENDA

#### 1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- (a) Any member of the public who wishes to ask a question, make representations or present a deputation or petition at this meeting should apply to do so before the commencement of the meeting. Information on how to make the application is available on the Council's Website - <u>http://www.kendaltowncouncil.gov.uk/kendaltown-council/statutory-information/guidance-on-public-participation-at-kendaltown-council-meetings/</u>. The public are not permitted to speak in other parts of the meeting unless allowed to do so by the chair. Please follow the specific guidelines for Zoom meetings distributed separately.
- (b) Kim Baker (current tenant at Greenside Allotments) and Tim Nichols (prospective tenant) will attend the meeting in relation to item 6 on the Agenda.

#### 2. APOLOGIES

To receive and accept any apologies. If accepted, apologies will be considered to be for reasons approved by the Council under the terms of the Local Government Act, 1972, s85.

#### 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

# To receive declarations by Members and/or co-optees of interests in respect of items on this Agenda

In accordance with the revised Code of Conduct, Members are required to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPIs) or Other Registrable interests (ORIs) which have not already been declared in the Council's Register of Interests. Members are reminded that it is a criminal offence not to declare a DPI, either in the Register or at the meeting. In the interests of clarity and transparency, Members may wish to declare any DPI which they have already declared in the Register, as well as any ORI.

**4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** To receive the minutes from the meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and affirm them as a true record *(see attached).* 

#### 5. **PROJECT UPDATE (SEE ATTACHED)**

To receive a project update report and consider the following item from the Townscape Manager:

- Funding Request (Fencing)
- 6. APPROVAL REQUEST FOR GREENSIDE ALLOTMENTS (SEE ATTACHED)

To consider an application to keep hens on Greenside Allotments. .

# 7. AVIAN FLU (SEE ATTACHED)

For information only – new restrictions in respect of Avian Flu from 14<sup>th</sup> December.

#### 8. ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

To consider items for inclusion in the following newsletters:

- Spring 2021 Edition deadline 22nd January, publication 1st March (provisional)
- Summer 2021 Edition deadline 11th June, publication 19th July (provisional)

## 9. REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2020/21 (SEE ATTACHED)

## 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - MARCH 2021 (TBC)

Janine Holt Assistant to the Town Clerk

By e-mail/post to: Members of the Committee All other Councillors (agenda only, for information)

Please note that only Committee Members will receive the minutes and attachments, but that other Councillors may request a copy of any agenda papers. Any Councillor who is not a Committee Member may still attend the meeting, as an observer.

#### ------

Members of the Press and Public are welcome to attend the meeting.

# **KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL**

# Allotments Committee

# Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7.00 pm (Via Teleconferencing)

**PRESENT** Councillors Alvin Finch (Chair & Mayor), Dave Miles (Vice Chair), Giles Archibald, Michele Miles and Stephen Coleman

<u>Also in attendance</u>: Gwen Tordoff – Castle Haggs Site Rep Deborah Allison – Canal Head Site Rep Ros Taylor – Wattsfield Site Rep Charlotte Wight – Allotment holder, Plot 12 Rinkfield Councillor Chris Rowley – Allotment holder, Underley Road Jason Rushworth – Reporter, Newsquest

- APOLOGIES None.
- **OFFICERS** Janine Holt (Assistant to the Town Clerk), Nicky King (Council Secretary) and Pierre Labat (Townscape Manager)
- 270/20/21 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

#### 271/20/21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Coleman and Finch declared an interest in item 10 on the agenda (Annual Rent Review) as allotment holders.

# 272/20/21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2020

The Chairman presented the minutes of the meeting held on  $22^{nd}$  June 2020, which had been approved by full Council on  $3^{rd}$  August 2020.

Councillor Finch proposed that the minutes be accepted as a correct record of the meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously.

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 be accepted as a correct record.

#### MATTERS ARISING (Not on Agenda)

273/20/21 <u>Minute Ref 087/20/21 – Noticeboards/Rat Problem</u> Councillor Coleman asked whether the press release had been issued in respect of the rat problem and control measures being undertaken. Janine will action as soon as possible.

#### <u>Minute Ref 088/20/21 – Polytunnels</u> Janine advised that she had met with a tenant in respect of a greenhouse which is over the permitted size. The tenant had not

realised permission was required and will submit a retrospective application.

**RESOLVED** Janine to action a press release in respect of the rat problem and control measures being undertaken asap.

#### 274/20/21 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members considered the Terms of Reference for the Committee. One point raised was clarity around the issue of site reps voting at meetings. The Terms currently refer to 'co-opted members' and it was agreed to amend the wording to make it clear that site reps can vote on any matters other than expenditure.

**RESOLVED** Terms of Reference to be amended to ensure clarity around the issue of site reps voting at meetings.

#### 275/20/21 PROJECT UPDATE

Janine presented the Project Update and highlighted the following points:

- Increase in people joining the waiting list. Currently the list stands at 215, an increase of 54 from the last meeting.
- Site visits have been undertaken on 2 occasions with a further visit scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> October.
- 4 notices to quit have been issued since the last meeting.
- There are no vacant plots currently. 7 plots have been offered with a deadline of 30<sup>th</sup> September. To date only 2 have replied. If replies are not received by the deadline the plots will be offered to the next person on the list. Ros Taylor has been asking tenants on Wattsfield whether they want to split plots.

#### Rats

A large increase in rat activity has been experienced this year. Castle Haggs and Castle Haggs Extension is currently experiencing a very high volume of rats. It is thought that they are attracted by the presence of sunflowers.

There is no longer rat infestation at Coley Barn.

The Pest Control Officer has been requested to maintain Rinkfield, Castle Haggs, Castle Haggs Extension and Coley Barn on a routine basis. Regular reports have also been requested.

#### Anti-Social Behaviour

Castle Haggs and Extension have seen previous problems of antisocial behaviour, stolen produce is a particular problem. The idea of a combination lock on the gates has been floated.

#### Rabbits at Town View

Following the last meeting Janine contacted SLDC to request permission to allow a marksman on site to shoot the rabbits. To date permission has not been granted. New Tenants are informed about the problem and advised to rabbit proof their own plots. The Townscape Manager regularly checks the integrity of the fencing.

#### Allotment Maps and Numbering

Simon Unsworth (Mayor's Attendant) will commence mapping the allotments and produce an accurate map of each site. Following this exercise the database will be updated and new plot numbers issued if required.

#### **Bonfires on Allotments**

Janine advised she had contacted the National Association for guidance following the last meeting. They referred back to the Local Authority. The clause currently in tenancy agreements relating to bonfires states:

4.9 The Tenant is only permitted to burn non-compostable garden waste from their allotment. Bonfires must be kept to a minimum and not cause a nuisance to other plot holders, neighbouring residents or neighbouring businesses.

It was agreed Committee need to consider their position further.

#### Abuse to Staff

Janine has spoken to CALC who advised they do not have a policy available in relation to abuse to staff. Advice from the National Association is to follow what is in the tenancy agreement. The clause currently included reads:

*Verbal or physical abuse to Kendal Town Council staff will not be tolerated under any circumstances. This will result in immediate termination of your tenancy.* 

Janine will discuss the matter further with the new Town Clerk when they take up position. One point highlighted by CALC was the need for a lone worker policy. She will check this is in place also.

Councillor Coleman referred to the rats on Castle Haggs and asked that information and advice in this respect be put on all sites which have a noticeboard. With regard to abuse to staff, he suggested a strong letter be sent to any individual that abuses a member of staff advising that if a further incident occurs they will risk termination of their tenancy.

Councillor Archibald reported the presence of rats on Greenside. He also commented that he would want to see the burning of waste on sites kept to a minimum given concern about climate change. In respect of the problem of verbal abuse to staff, he advised informing the individual they are being abusive and risk termination of their tenancy and ending the conversation.

Councillor Finch advised that no rabbits have been seen on Town View recently. He suggested any shooting of rabbits be put on hold for the time being.

Pierre updated Members in respect of works at Castle Haggs Extension to remove sunflowers after rats were seen eating the sunflowers. Strimming work has also been undertaken at Town View to help control rabbits.

There was a general discussion in respect of bonfires on allotments and whether they should be allowed. Councillor Rowley commented that it is a very difficult issue which needs to be managed gently. Some piles of twigs etc are needed to support biodiversity. He suggested placing some articles on the subject in the newsletter. It was agreed to include an article on the topic of bonfires stating that Committee wish to keep them to a minimum but for various reasons will not be banning them altogether.

Deborah Allison asked whether it would be acceptable to lay small logs from fruit trees over the fence adjoining the wood at Canal Head instead of burning them. Janine advised that she would need to check and commented that wood piled up can attract rats and add to the problem.

Ros Taylor observed that the presence of bird feeders can also encourage rats. Janine will include this in information passed on to tenants.

- **RESOLVED** 1. Janine to discuss the issue of abuse to staff with the new Town Clerk. She will also check a lone worker policy is in place.
  - 2. Article to be included in the newsletter on the topic of bonfires.
  - 3. Janine to advise re placing of logs from fruit trees on land adjoining Canal Head.

#### 276/20/21 TOWNSCAPE MANAGER WORK UPDATE

The Townscape Manager informed Members of work at plot 8, Rinkfield which has been split and is now ready to let. Further work to split plots was carried out over the summer. He plans to carry out structural work to the fence at Crow Tree over the winter. As this will cost in excess of £1,500 an additional quote will be required which Pierre will present at the next meeting.

Pierre had spoken with a contractor in respect of asbestos on sites. He suggested that it is the wrong time of year to carry out a survey due to vegetation. The survey will therefore be undertaken in the New Year and a report will be presented to Committee. It was agreed that if anything particularly urgent was highlighted in the survey report Councillor Finch would have authority to action.

Janine commented that the fencing contractor for Crow Tree could also be requested to look at Castle Haggs. Pierre will obtain quotes for the next meeting.

Councillor Archibald stressed the importance of the issue of asbestos removal and asked how site reps and tenants could be engaged in the exercise. He added that people should be informed the survey is being carried out and their input invited. Councillor Finch advised that he had spoken to Janine about holding a site reps meeting and agreed to organise this as soon as possible.

Councillor Rowley thanked everyone who responded to the People's Café request for produce. A tonne and a half of fresh produce was received in July, August and September and a further half tonne from Low Sizergh garden. It was agreed to include an article in the newsletter. Councillor Rowley to forward details to Jason Rushworth for a possible article in the Gazette.

#### **RESOLVED** 1. Pierre to obtain cost for fencing at Crow Tree for the next meeting.

- 2. Asbestos survey to be carried out in the New Year and presented to Committee.
- 3. Pierre to obtain quotes for fencing at Castle Haggs from contractor working on Crow Tree for the next meeting.
- 4. Site reps meeting to be arranged asap.
- 5. Article to be included in the newsletter re donation of produce to People's Café. Details to be forwarded to Jason Rushworth also.

#### 277/20/21 REQUEST FOR A POLYTUNNEL ON UNDERLEY ROAD

Members considered a request for polytunnel at plot 25, Underley Road. It was agreed Janine will ensure all tenants on the site are agreeable. She will also write to residents whose houses back onto plot 25.

**RESOLVED** Janine to contact all tenants of Underley Road to check they are agreeable and write to residents whose houses back onto Plot 25.

#### 278/20/21 APPRENTICESHIP OPPORTUNITY

Councillor Finch raised the possibility of offering an apprenticeship position to assist the Townscape Manager and asked Members to consider the idea. A general discussion ensued and several Members indicated their support in principle. The Townscape Manager agreed it would be useful to have assistance in the case of illness or emergency.

It was agreed Councillor Finch and Janine will explore the possibility further. Discussions to be had with the new Town Clerk and Kendal College.

**RESOLVED** Councillor Finch and Janine to explore the possibility of an apprenticeship opportunity.

#### 279/20/21 ANNUAL RENT REVIEW

Councillor Finch abstained from this item and Councillor D Miles (Vice Chair) chaired the discussion.

Janine advised that it had previously been decided to increase rent by 1p per square metre in 2018, freeze rent in 2019 and increase by 1p per square metre in 2020. Members were asked whether they wished to continue with, or vary, this proposal. It was noted that the annual rate of increase equates to around 2% per year which is approximately in line with inflation. Councillor Coleman proposed the increase of 1p per square metre and this was passed with 2 abstentions.

The matter of supporting tenants who experience financial hardship and who are unable to afford the rent was discussed. Ideas put forward included the reduction of rent or deferment for a certain length of time, splitting payments over the year to help with cash flow and a waiver scheme. Members agreed that allotments are important for mental health and it should not be the case that someone loses a plot due to poverty. It was agreed that Janine will research what other Councils do in this situation and take some guidance.

- **RECOMMENDATION** That allotment rent be increased by 1p per square metre.
- **RESOLVED** Janine to seek guidance in respect of supporting tenants who are experiencing financial hardship.

#### 280/20/21 ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

It was agreed to include an article in the allotments newsletter thanking people for looking after allotment sites during a challenging year. Waiting list figures etc to be included. Other items for inclusion are:

- Bonfires.
- Rats.
- Donation of veg
- Advice if experiencing financial hardship
- Advice on aspects of biodiversity
- Asbestos project

#### 281/20/21 REVIEW OF SPEND AGAINST BUDGET 2020/21

Members considered the Budgetary Control Statement for the period ended 31 August 2020.

<u>Pest Control</u> - budget will require increasing for next year as expenditure is going to be significant.

Water charges – water usage should decline throughout the winter.

<u>Walls and fences</u> – any remaining budget will carry into the next financial year as this is an Action Plan project.

<u>Allotment fund</u> – this has previously been earmarked for site improvements and could possibly be used for the asbestos project.

It was agreed to organise a site reps meeting asap so that site improvements can be discussed.

#### 282/20/21 2021/22 BUDGET – REVIEW OF BUDGET REQUIREMENTS AND PROPOSALS FOR ONE-OFF DEVELOPMENT FUND BIDS

Members discussed budget requirements for 2021/22 and the requirements for one-off Development Fund bids and agreed the following:

- Request Development Fund bid of £5k for the asbestos project.
- Request £1.5k increase in budget for pest control.

Councillor Finch proposed to submit the requests for consideration by Full Council. This was seconded by Councillor Coleman and carried unanimously.

The possibility of replacing the current KTC van with an electric vehicle was raised. It was noted that if the intention was to purchase this in 2021/22 the money would need to be included in this budget. Janine will seek advice from the Treasurer as to when the vehicle would normally be replaced.

Councillor Rowley referred to the Allotment Fund and suggested it would be useful to issue information as to its origin, purpose etc for those that were not aware. Councillor Coleman explained it was originally set aside for purchasing a new site however nothing suitable materialised. It was subsequently decided to utilise the money to bring all sites up to a certain standard.

- **RECOMMENDATION** Request for Development Fund bid for the asbestos project and budget increase for pest control to be submitted to Council.
- **RESOLVED** Janine to seek advice from the Treasurer re normal timeframe for replacing the KTC van.

#### 283/20/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that a request to keep hens had been received from an allotment holder. The tenant has been informed that further guidance is being sought and the matter will be brought to Committee at the next meeting scheduled for December.

**RESOLVED** Guidance on the keeping of hens on allotments to be sought and discussed at the next Committee meeting.

#### 284/20/21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Min	Subject	Information/Resolution/Recommendation to Council				
273	Matters Arising – Rat problem	RES	Janine to action a press release respect of the rat problem and contr measures being undertaken asap.			
274	Annual Review of the Terms of Reference	RES	Terms of Reference to be amended to ensure clarity around the issue of site reps voting at meetings.			
275	Project Update	RES	<ol> <li>Janine to discuss the issue of abuse to staff with the new Town Clerk. She will also check a lone worker policy is in place.</li> <li>Article to be included in the newsletter on the topic of bonfires.</li> <li>Janine to advise re placing of logs from fruit trees on land adjoining Canal Head.</li> </ol>			
276	Townscape Manager Work Update	RES	<ol> <li>Pierre to obtain cost for fencing at Crow Tree for the next meeting.</li> <li>Asbestos survey to be carried out in the New Year and presented to Committee.</li> <li>Pierre to obtain quotes for fencing at Castle Haggs from contractor working on Crow Tree for the next meeting.</li> <li>Site reps meeting to be arranged asap.</li> <li>Article to be included in the newsletter re donation of produce to People's Café. Details to be forwarded to Jason Rushworth also.</li> </ol>			
277	Request for a Polytunnel on Underley Road	RES	Janine to contact all tenants of Underley Road to check they are agreeable and write to residents whose houses back onto Plot 25.			
278	Apprenticeship Opportunity	RES	Councillor Finch and Janine to explore the possibility of an apprenticeship opportunity.			
279	Annual Rent Review	REC	That allotment rent be increased by 1p per square metre.			
		RES	Janine to seek guidance in respect of supporting tenants who are experiencing financial hardship.			

# Summary of Information, Resolutions and Recommendations to Council

282	2021/22 Budget	REC	Request for Development Fund bid fo the asbestos project and budge increase for pest control to be submitted to Council. Janine to seek advice from the Treasurer re normal timeframe fo replacing the KTC van.	
283	AOB – Hens	RES	Guidance on the keeping of hens on allotments to be sought and discussed at the next Committee meeting.	

# Allotments Committee 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020

# Project Update

The main focus of the allotment work over the last quarter has been:

- Maintaining the database and waiting list, dealing with queries as and when they arise and letting plots
- Producing the Annual Newsletter
- Creating and circulating the invoices and newsletter to all tenants

Again we have had an increase in demand for allotments this quarter and the waiting list currently stands at 267 which is an increase of 52 from last meeting.

#### Inspection Visits

I undertook site visits on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020. 19 letters were sent to tenants asking them to tend their allotments.

Follow up visits will take place on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

I am scheduled to inspect **all** allotments again on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

## Notice to Quit

I have issued 2 notices to quit since last meeting.

#### Vacant Plots

I have no vacant plots.

#### Number of Plots Let Since Last Meeting

I have let 9 plots since the last meeting.

#### <u>Asbestos Project – Lead Officer Pierre Labat</u>

Pierre and I met on 30<sup>th</sup> September to discuss the project and to formulate a workable timetable. Pierre felt that due to current work priorities, he would not be able to dedicate much time to this before Christmas. I suggested that the survey work commences when he returns to work after the Christmas break. We agreed:-

- Pierre will have a data collection sheet available for comments at the next Committee meeting in December.
- Starting the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 will start the site surveys and data collection.
- All the site surveys will be completed by the end of February 2021.
- On completion of the surveys, Pierre will meet with the Contractor to have an initial discussion and to establish a cost per site for removal of the asbestos.
- Pierre will present the findings and quotes to the Committee at the March 2021 meeting.

# **KENDAL TOWN COMMITTEE REPORT**

To: Allotments Committee	14 <sup>th</sup> December 2020
From: Assistant to the Town Clerk	Agenda Item No. 6

# **APPLICATION TO KEEP HENS ON GREEENSIDE ALLOTMENTS**

An application was made in July by a current tenant and a prospective tenant (joined the waiting list 29.5.20) to keep hens on Greenside allotments.

The current policy document clearly states sites which are not permitted to have hens. Greenside is a **cultivation only site**. The cultivation only sites were identified mainly because of the close proximity to the residential area. It was agreed to avoid sites that are too close to residential properties because of potential nuisance issues, in particular relating to vermin.

Due to the complexity of this request and the potential impact of the decision, the need to seek further guidance was recommended. The Chairman of the Committee requested that the application be deferred from the September Committee meeting to the December Committee meeting. This would enable all the relevant information to be available and the ability for Committee members to make an informed decision.

#### Allotment Act

Under the 1950 Allotment Act **you are allowed to keep hens on your allotment**, as long as they are only for the use of the tenants and not used for business or profit. However, if your chickens are regarded as a nuisance or a health hazard, or their welfare is affected they can be removed. (Please see relevant section of the 1950 Act below)

# 12 Abolition of contractual restrictions on keeping hens and rabbits.

(1) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in any lease or tenancy or in any covenant, contract or undertaking relating to the use to be made of any land, it shall be lawful for the occupier of any land to keep, otherwise than by way of trade or business, hens or rabbits in any place on the land and to erect or place and maintain such buildings or structures on the land as reasonably necessary for that purpose:

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall authorise any hens or rabbits to be kept in such a place or in such a manner as to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance or affect the operation of any enactment.

# **Opinion from South Lakeland Environmental Health Department**

The Environmental Health department are not supportive of hens on Greenside due to the close proximity of the residential properties and their main concern is, if poorly managed this could lead to an issue with vermin.

# **Fellside Forum**

Fellside Forum have informed me that there is a current problem with rats in the residential properties in the area near the allotments. Although an objection wasn't raised to the

approval of hens on Greenside allotments, they will keep abreast of the ongoing situation. Please note, I have not actively sought the opinion of Fellside Forum or made them aware of the application to keep hens on Greenside.

#### **Surrounding Residential Area**

To date, I have not sought the opinion of the surrounding residential area.

## Information from National Association of Allotment Gardeners

The Assistant to the Town Clerk contacted the association in August for advice on the above and in particular the 1950 Allotment Act. The advice given was that hens **should be** permitted on **statutory** allotments unless there is a byelaw in place prohibiting it or they are regarded as a nuisance or health hazard. **Greenside is a statutory allotment.** 

The Assistant to the Town Clerk undertook some research to ascertain if there was any byelaws in place on or around Greenside allotments. The search was challenging, as there is no central database of the information. The Kendal Fell Acts of 1861 and 1907, both of which seem to include byelaws for the regulation of activities on Kendal Fell (of which Greenside Allotments were once a part) is currently being researched by my colleague in relation to relevant byelaws.

#### Nuisance

The question on whether they would be perceived a nuisance is open to interpretation. To use this as a reason to reject outright the approval of hens, would require robust evidence to support the decision.

#### **Options for Consideration**

**1. To not permit hens on Greenside allotments.** This will uphold the current KTC policy document.

# 2. To allow hens on Greenside allotments.

**3.** To allow hens with suitable conditions attached. The plot holder would have to adhere to the conditions and would be subject to a trial period. The situation would have to be closely monitored.

# 4. To defer a decision on the approval of the hens until the findings are available on the research of the Kendal Fell Acts of 1861 and 1907.

If the Committee favours option 3, they would have to agree on the conditions they require, taking into consideration the location of the site, proximity to the residential area, number of hens permitted and vermin control as the main areas for consideration.

No cockerels are to be permitted onto the allotment site at any time.

If the applicant relinquishes their plot, the hens must be removed from site. The prospective tenant (who is supporting the applicant) will not be able to keep the hens on the plot. Due to the high demand and restricted number of plots on Greenside, plots have to be offered to the next on the waiting list.

# Report prepared by Assistant to the Town Clerk – 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020.



# **Bird Flu—Important Information**

All poultry and pet birds **will have to be kept indoors by law from 14th December** as rules are tightened in a bid to stop the spread of bird flu.

Chief veterinary officers for England, Scotland and Wales ordered the move following several outbreaks of the highly infectious disease in farming areas and in the wild.

As a result, all bird keepers will be legally required to keep flocks netted or indoors to protect against the avian virus from 14 December.

# UK Chief Veterinary Officer Christine Middlemiss said:

"We have taken swift action to limit the spread of the disease and are now planning to introduce a legal requirement for all poultry and captive bird keepers to keep their birds housed or otherwise separate from wild birds," it reads.

"Whether you keep just a few birds or thousands, from 14 December onwards you will be legally required to keep your birds indoors, or take appropriate steps to keep them separate from wild birds.

"We have not taken this decision lightly, but it is the best way to protect your birds from this highly infectious disease."

# If any birds are found to be outside after the 14th December, you will be in breach of the law and therefore you tenancy will be terminated with immediate effect.

Thank you for your co-operation with this matter and I will keep you informed of any updates.

# Janine Holt, Assistant to the Town Clerk

# **KENDAL TOWN COUNCIL - ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE**

# **BUDGETARY CONTROL STATEMENT: EXPENDITURE TO 31 OCTOBER 2020**

2020/21 Approved Budget	Heading	Actual to date	Commitments	Total to date	Budget Remaining
£		£	£	£	£
	Allotments:				
24,250	Staffing	14,146	10,104	24,250	0
1,030	Vehicle Running Costs	799	4	802	228
1,030	Pest Control	1,030		1,030	0
515	Waste Removal	515		515	0
6,695	Site Maintenance	3,435	750	4,185	2,510
1,545	Water Charges	1,043	585	1,628	(83)
876	Rents Payable	840		840	36
-	Improvements & Developments			0	0
35,941	Total:	21,808	11,443	33,251	2,690
	Receipts:				
22,262	Allotment Rents Receivable	12,986		12,986	9,276
	Action Plan Projects: Improve boundary walls/fences at:				
10,000		9,555		9,555	445
		0		0	0
10,000		9,555	0	9,555	445
73,112	Allotments Fund:				73,752
	Allotments - interest received	640		640	