

CENTRAL SWINDON NORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Agenda Item 9, Allotments – Finance & Staffing Committee, 5th December 2017, Pinetrees Community Centre

- **Introduction**

This report has been produced to update members of the Finance & Staffing Committee on the invoicing process, expected income and possible expenditure for the 9 Leisure Gardens transferred to the Central Swindon North Parish Council on 1st Oct-17.

- **Invoicing & Income**

- Invoices for allotments at the Leisure Garden sites for the period 1st Oct-17 to 30th Sep-18 will be issued by Friday 8th Dec-17.
Welcome letters/introductions to the Parish Council and new letting agreements are also being sent out with the invoices.
- There have been delays in issuing invoices whilst site visits to the Leisure Gardens were completed and the accompanying Welcome Letters and Letting Agreements were being drafted.
- As per the allotment data received from Swindon Borough Council at total of 491 invoices will be issued for varying plot sizes; 2.5, 5 and 10. The total amount being invoiced is £ 17,227.80 which is broken down as follows:

Akers Way

31 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £948.60

6 x quarter size plots @ £15.30 each = £91.80

Churchward Avenue

4 x full size plots @ £61.20 each = £244.80

26 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £795.60

Cheney Manor

12 x full size plots @ £61.20 each = £734.40

77 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £2,356.20

1 x half size plots @ concessionary rate of £22.95 each = £22.95

Crowdys Hill

20 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £612

Gorse Hill

16 x full size plots @ £61.20 each = £979.20

1 x full size plots @ concessionary rate of £45.90 each = £45.90

65 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £1,989

1 x half size plots @ concessionary rate of £22.95 each = £22.95

Pickards Field

31 x full size plots @ £61.20 each = £1,897.20

2 x full size plots @ concessionary rate of £45.90 each = £91.80

92 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £2,815.20

9 x half size plots @ concessionary rate of £22.95 each = £206.55

1 x quarter size plots @ £15.30 each = £15.30

Redcliffe Street

15 x full size plots @ £61.20 each = £918

55 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £1,683

1 x quarter size plots @ £15.30 each = £15.30

Rodbourne Farm

20 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £612

2 x half size plots @ concessionary rate of £22.95 each = £45.90

Somerford Close

2 x half size plots @ £30.60 each = £61.20

1 x half size plots @ concessionary rate of £22.95 each = £22.95

- Based on observations made at recent sites visits its thought that potentially 15-20% of tenants may give notice to quit their allotment at the point of receiving an invoice for the new year. We will seek to let any plots given up as soon as possible to prevent these from becoming too overgrown which puts off new tenants.
- **Expenditure**
- The Allotments Working Group have met twice to date and would like to pilot a scheme whereby plot number plaques are issued to tenants to display, rather than putting the onus on individual tenants to display their plot number
A quote for the production of plot numbers has been obtained from Enterprise Works and each number works out as approx. £12 each. At the time that this report was produced members of the Working Group had been asked whether they would like to proceed with the production of the numbers or seek quotes from alternative suppliers.
- Churchward Avenue Leisure Gardens were broken into twice over the weekend of 2nd-3rd December 2017 and some sheds and personal property was damaged. Unauthorised people are able to gain access to the site via the fence to the left of the main gate by climbing over the wall of the neighbouring property.
Members of the Working Group have been advised to seek approval from the Leisure & Amenities Committee to spend money on having the existing fencing replaced with a taller more robust fence. The approx. cost of this is £200-£300.