Public Meeting – 5th November 2024 Future Management of the Allotment Sites

Meeting Summary

In attendance were Town Councillors, Alex Dale, Mark Foster, Pam Jones, Susan Burkitt and Graham Baxter and the Town Clerk, Joanne Mitchell.

Around 120 members of the public joined the meeting.

Cllr Alex Dale, Chair of the Properties Advisory Committee at the Town Council gave a short presentation which highlighted the Town Council's commitment to the ongoing provision of the four allotment sites across the town, underlining the Council's legal duty to provide allotments, where there is a demand from within the parish. The current lease agreements in place for each allotment site, date back to 1971 and are no longer fit for purpose, alongside this the long time Chair of the Dronfield Allotment Society had also expressed a wish to stand down.

Cllr Dale therefore discussed the need to form a new committee for the ongoing management of the allotment sites and outlined the support that the Town Council can provide and draft timeframe to work towards.

The floor was then opened to the public to ask questions and express an interest in being on the new committee. A variety of questions were asked, which covered many different aspects of the running and management of the allotments previously and going forwards.

Attendees left their contact details at the end of the meeting and indicated whether they would be interested in being part of a new committee.

It was agreed to contact the interested parties and arrange a further meeting with them to discuss in detail the commitment required and more details about the role of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. A representative of the National Allotment Society will also be invited to attend this further meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:00pm.