Report Statement

Report Purpose:

Byron Road Allotment Holders Association Request

Author:

Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk

Background:

Byron Lane Allotment Holders Association have made the following request:

Following a spate of thefts from sheds on the site in 2021, we decided we needed to improve the site's security. This included replacing a number of perished posts along the Laburnum Road fence, completely rebuilding the fence adjacent to the farmer's field and installing a camera. Finally, as it was felt that our 4 foot high access gates were by far the weakest point on the site, the decision was taken to replace them with a higher, more substantial set of galvanised gates, half the cost of which the Council agreed to fund. Such measures have greatly improved the security of the site.

These new gates were attached to the original wooden gate posts by Sutton Engineering, a local business who produced by far the most competitive quote for the work. Unfortunately one of the posts has recently broken off below ground level and although we have managed to stabilise it with a temporary fix, it will be only a matter of time before it gives way again. Furthermore, the current restraining chains outside the boundary are somewhat of a trip hazard even though clearly indicated by the safety netting. We have contacted Sutton Engineering for a costing to dig out and replace the current posts with galvanised ones. That work has been priced at £988.70, as outlined in the quote supplied.

We would be grateful if the council would consider our request of some financial assistance towards the cost of this work on the same basis as that generously offered when we purchased the new gates.

Recommendation:

Byron Lane Allotment Holders Association run the allotments on behalf of the Council and collect all the rents. In line with the allotment strategy, they have put in their request in writing and obtained a quote from a local firm. In the past they have paid 50% of work that needed to be done and the Council have paid the other 50%. Therefore, the recommendation is to pay 50% of the cost of the gates posts.

sutton engineering Ltd

Allotments Byron's lane Macclesfield Cheshire

Quotation

To remove steel gates dig old wooden posts out of the ground Fit new galvanised 100/100 box section posts and re fit gates All rubbish removed from site Two men for the job

Two days labour
Concrete
100/100 box section posts
Galvanising
Hire of jack hammer
Rubbish removal

Total price £988.70