

Policy & Resources Committee

Date:	12 November 2019
Title:	Stones Close Allotments Partnering Agreement
Contact Officer:	Cassie Pinnells, Community Services Manager

Purpose of Report

1. To provide background on the renewal of the Stones Close Allotments Partnering Agreement for the period of 4 years from 1 October 2019 – 30 September 2023.

Background

2. A Partnering Agreement sets out the roles and responsibilities of each partner. The aim is to ensure clarity of expectation and to formalise the successful partnership.
3. Attached is the updated draft Partnering Agreement which has been agreed by the Stones Close Allotments Management Committee. Cosmetic changes to the rules have been made by the Chairman of the Stones Close Management Committee to reflect current practice.
4. The annual rent payable for the site by the Management Committee is currently £300. The rental fee has been held since 2011.
5. The Management Committee have not increased the allotment plot holders rent during the current agreement and this remains at 11p per square meter. The Management Committee have advised that there is no intention to increase the rent in the foreseeable future.

Resource Appraisals

6. The agreement provides free use of the Upper Chamber for the Allotments Annual General Meeting.
7. The annual ground rent payable by the Management Committee shall be payable on 1 October and will be linked directly to any increase applied by the Management Committee to the site's allotment plot holders rent.
8. It is not possible to compare this fee with other allotments in the county as the responsibility of the management committees differ. The Council has always been keen to support and develop this type of community activity and has not previously looked to accept anything but a nominal fee
9. It is proposed to hold the annual fee at £300 for the rent back dated to 1 October 2019 for the period 2019-20.

Risk Assessment

10. The Partnering Agreement covers the risks involved in managing the allotment site.

Legal Powers: Local Government Act 1972 s.111

Recommendation:

- i) To agree that the annual rent payable by the Management Committee for the period 2019-20 is £300.***
- ii) To authorise the sealing of the updated agreement.***