

Full Council

Title:	Stones Close Allotments Partnering Agreement
Date:	8 August 2023
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 2023 – 30 September 2027.

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. Minor changes have been made to clarify that both the Council and Stones Close Management Committee have equal responsibility to maintain the site boundary.
4. The annual ground rent payable for the site by the Management Committee has been reviewed by the Community, Leisure and Recreation Committee and approved by resolution at £300 for the duration of the Partnership Agreement.
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.
6. The site has 165 plots, since the annual inspection, there are now four plots vacant due to the allotment holders not keeping the plots cultivated, there is currently no waiting list. The retired committee members have prepared the four plots for reallocation already.

Resource Appraisals

7. The agreement provides free use of the Upper Chamber for the Allotments Annual General Meeting.
8. 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.

Risk Assessment

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

Legal Powers:

- Local Government Act 1972 s.111

Recommendation:

- To authorise the signing and sealing of the updated 4-year Stones Close Partnership Agreement.***