

REPORT TO KING'S LYNN AREA CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Committee: King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee

Date: 24th August 2017

Subject: King's Lynn: Public Open Space update (play areas, allotments, dog waste bins, grass cutting review)

Background

1. Members of King's Lynn Area Consultative Committee (KLACC) have already received background information on all the elements covered in this report.
2. This report is an update on the areas that are managed / covered by the Public Open Space service area.

Special Expenses:

Estimate 2017/18	£
Footway Lighting	24,120
Play Areas	30,820
Community Centres	51,060
Closed Churchyards	9,740
Allotments	19,980
Pavilions	32,570
Dog Bins	9,950
Open Spaces	288,600
Bus Shelters	13,000
Total	479,840
Less Council Tax Support Grant	(24,000)
Net total charged as Special Expense	455,840
Tax base 2017/18	9,783
Band D Charge	46.59

Play Areas:

There have been no significant changes in the previous information supplied regarding play areas. However, the Friends of Peppers Green managed to secure WREN funding, which meant that the area could be refurbished with a new layout and equipment being installed. The park reopened on Friday 11th August 2017.

There are no major play area refurbishments planned for this financial year.

Allotments:

There are now 422 plots across 7 allotment sites within King's Lynn which are managed by the Borough Council, charged to Special Expenses. These are:

Curtis Field	8 plots	Ferry Road	70 plots
Gaywood	63 plots	Seven Sisters	7 plots
Ouse Avenue	35 plots	Turbus Road	9 plots
Wardles Chase	118 plots		

North Lynn allotments have now become an association, which has reduced the managed stock by 135 allotments; this has resulted in an income reduction of £4,725 which is slightly off set by an income from the association of £1,250.

There will also be a reduction in the management and administration of allotments, due to the association being formed.

The current charge per m2 is now £0.14 with an average plot costing £35.00 per annum.

New Allotment Rules have now been issued to all allotment holders and some feedback has been received regarding these and the price increases which will be presented via a powerpoint presentation.

Dog Waste Bins:

There are now 126 dog waste bins within King's Lynn, an increase of 12 since the last report; these additional bins are emptied on a weekly basis.

Grass Cutting Review

A full review of the grass cutting regime across the borough was carried out in late 2015 and came into force from March 2016 and was continually reviewed and revised throughout the year, with a full review carried out in late 2016, in preparation for the 2017 season.

A log was established to record any service requests so the situation could be monitored and revised as necessary, to date there have been 6 service requests.

A greater explanation of the grass cutting regime will be give via powerpoint.