

Romsey Town Council Allotments Management Committee

Minutes of the meeting held at 07:00pm on the **23rd October 2025** at the Court Room, Romsey Town Hall, Romsey.

Those present: Mr Mike Nobbs, Mr Chris Davies, Mrs Clementine Kingstone, Mrs Lisa Fallowfield, Mr John Waterman, Mr Elvin Mullinger, Mr Roger House, Mrs Eleanor Vamplew.

Apologies: Cllr Colin Burgess.

10.1 The Minutes of the last meeting on 23rd August were confirmed as accurate.

The proposed rule changes to accommodate additional safety requirements has been deferred until next meeting when Cllr Burgess can be in attendance.

10.2 Correspondence:

10.2.1 A recent spate of vandalism occurred across site on the evening of 10th October and it has been reported that a number of thefts have occurred of mainly smaller items and hand tools.

The incident has been reported to the police and all plot holders affected should do the same.

We need to re-iterate to tenants of the need to not lock sheds and keep expensive items such as strimmers etc.at home.

10.2.2 A complaint was received at Town Hall on 08th October regarding the lighting of bonfires affecting the properties across the railway line at Tadburn. It is unclear whether our site, or the RAHA site, is responsible for this action and until we receive confirmation of the situation cannot act further. Given the wind direction at the time, it is not believed to have come from our site.

10.2.3 Correspondence was received from two potential tenants, one who was resident on the IOW but worked in our area.

10.2.4 The recently proposed photoshoot with the Town Mayor to highlight the installation of the defibrillator on site has been postponed until such time as there are favourable weather conditions.

10.3 Finance:

10.3.1 Spreadsheets illustrating the finances for both the current month and year to date and, previous years finances, were issued to all tenants prior to this date and will be discussed at the AGM.

10.3.2 The Current finances for this year reflect an income of £129.20 and an expenditure of £1770.69. This obviously excludes the plot rental income which is due in soon at the start of the new year. The earmarked reserve currently stands at £4272 with £798 reserves being carried forward into the coming year totalling the reserves to £5070.

10.3.3 EV mentioned that there may be some additional funds available this coming year to purchase some ancillary items, such as an on-site portable toilet, or other items. CD queried whether a toilet was practical due to the ongoing maintenance issues - to be discussed further at next meeting.

10.4 Allotments:

10.4.1 EM tabled a plot letting update dated 17/10/25 which confirmed the following: -

- a) plot 41 has resigned following termination letter.
- b) The tenant from plot 118 has transferred to plot 43 which had been vacated recently.
- c) It is uncertain at this stage whether plot 80a will resign as there is ongoing discussion between EM and the tenant.
- d) Plots 25, 47, 63 and 111 have resigned.
- e) In summary, plots 21, 25,41,47,63,98, 111 &118 are vacant.

10.4.2 It was suggested that plot 98 which has been vacant for some time either be converted into a community plot or split into 2 half plots giving newcomers a better introduction to holding an allotment plot.

10.4.3 There is currently still an outstanding request for a half-sized plot.

10.4.4 Apparently there are still ongoing health issues with the tenants to plot 87. The committee have agreed to allow them extra time to sort the plot out.

However, we are very conscious of the need to cut down of the Burdock plants which are growing at the front of their plot which is visibly detrimental at site entrance and has the potential to distribute its seeds around the site. CD volunteered to remove the plants when time allows.

10.4.5 EM confirmed his intention to step down as plot letting secretary, yet still remain on the committee.

10.5 Distribution Centre:

The shop is open to tenants when a committee member is present on site.

10.6 Councillor's Report:

The Councillors' Report which was prepared for, and distributed at the AGM meeting, is appended to the rear of these minutes for completeness.

10.7 AOB:

10.7.1 MN has agreed to continue managing the distribution centre shop even though he will retire from the committee come the end of this session.

10.7.2 As both MN and RH are standing down from the committee at the end of the current season, a collection was gathered from tenants and committee members to show their appreciation of their past endeavours which was presented along with leaving cards and our best wishes for their futures.

The meeting closed at 07:25pm.

Chris Davies

General Secretary
Date ... **14/10/2025**

Mike Nobbs

Outgoing Chairman

Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 19th November 2025, 7:30pm at the mayor's parlour,

17/10/2025

Allotment Plot lettings update

Waiting list 0

Vacancies 7

-
- 2 Illness

 - 21 **VACANT** poor condition

 - 25 Resigned **VACANT**

 - 41 **VACANT** after termination letter.

 - 43 Resigned. Now new tenant – transferred from plot 118 leaving that one vacant

 - 47 Resigned **VACANT**

 - 63 Resigned **VACANT**

 - 80a Poor condition. Tenant now has illness

 - 87 New let January. A setback due to illness ongoing. Agreed to allow time to work on it this autumn

 - 98 **VACANT** poor condition

 - 111 Resigned

 - 118 **VACANT** tenant transferred to 43

Observations and Comments by Romsey Town Council Representative

As I'm on holiday, I am sorry not to join you tonight. I wish you successful meeting.

Again, it has been a great pleasure to be the Town Council's representative and to have worked with a conscientious and proactive Committee this past year.

Plot Management

Please take care of your plots to spare the Committee the difficult task of chasing, or in extreme cases, arranging eviction of those who neglect them.

If illness or other issues prevent you from maintaining your plot temporarily, contact a Committee member for support.

Looking ahead to next year. If you feel your plot may be too much, please let the Committee know.

Site Entrance Car Park

Most, if not all of us, will be pleased to see the entrance car park has been re-surfaced. After protracted discussions, the Town Council secured an agreement with Hampshire County Council where they fully met the costs with Test Valley Borough Council undertaking the work. HCC accepted responsibility for the work because of the damage caused by their contractors engaged to construct the cycle track around 5 years ago!

The Town Council are aware of the water pooling and are investigating solutions.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

I was very pleased to see the AED being finally installed earlier this year. I sought agreement for it not long after being elected in May 2023. The challenge was to have a solution which prevented an exorbitant cost arising from the provision of the necessary mains electricity supply. I am grateful to the then newly appointed Buildings and Environment Manager. James Laffety for identifying the solution, which had only recently been launched.

Our solar and wind powered AED is only the 25th installation in the UK

Management Committee

On behalf of the Town Council, I thank both Mike Nobbs and Roger House for their combined 80 years or so service on the Management Committee. Stalwarts and heroes!

We wish them both well for the future.

I welcome those who will join the committee, and I look forward to working with them and those who remain on the Committee in the coming year.

Cllr Colin Burgess

Romsey Town Council's Representative

23 October, 2025

ROMSEY TOWN COUNCIL ALLOTMENT ACCOUNT

Statement of Income and Expenditure

01.04.2025 to 30.09.2025

Income	£	Expenditure	£	Budget £
Rents	60.00	Broadland's Rent		1500
Distribution Centre	69.20	Southern Water	44.64	750
		NSALG	70.00	70
		Card Reader Charges		0
		Dist Centre Stock		180
		Stationery/Post/Misc		0
		Maintnenace/Equip		150
		Concrete Base	850.00	
		Defib & case	668.00	
		Air horn	16.65	
		Alum Sign	95.00	
		Hedge Cutting		220
		Rat Poison/Pest Control		250
		Skip Hire		
		Sundries Petrol	26.40	
Totals	<u>129.20</u>		<u>1770.69</u>	<u>3120</u>
Income less Expenditure	-1641.49			
Earmarked Reserve	4272			
C/F 2024/25	<u>798</u>			
	5070			