

## Agenda Item 8

# Allotment Rent Write off for 2015-16

The Council needs to write off vacant allotment rent and arrears for the year 2015 – 16 as part of the year-end financial procedures recommended by the Internal Auditor. This shows that Parish Councillors are aware of the level of income lost through vacancies and non-payment of rents. The total write off for 2015 -16 is £949.50 for vacant plots which shows a significant decrease from last year's figure of £1373.50. There is currently no outstanding arrears and an overpayment of £3.50 the £56.00 outstanding from last year was successfully collected.

### The breakdown of lost income on a site to site basis is:

Site	Lost Revenue	Vacant Plots	Last Year	Last Year
Pasture Lane No.1	23.50	0	96.50	2
Pasture Lane No.2	47.00	1	29.00	1
Lower Parkhill	23.50	0	280.00	4
Lowerclough Street	854.00	13	967.00	18
Adjacent to Pasture Lane	1.50	1	1.00	1
Back Church Street	0	0	0	0
Upper Back Nora Street	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>£949.50</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>£1373.50</b>	<b>26</b>

As can be seen from the above table the level of vacancies at Lowerclough Street has been reduced by 5 the lost revenue for this site does not reflect this as £165.00 has been given in reductions reflecting plots let in the second half of the year. Vacancy rates on other sites have significantly decreased through lettings whilst waiting lists for specific sites are starting to increase.

### Recommendations:

1. That the Council approve the write off of £949.50 in lost rental revenue.
2. That proactive advertising for Lowerclough Street carries on.
3. That any necessary repairs to the timber raised beds are continually accessed and the programme of repairs/replacements be continued.