

Committee	FINANCE COMMITTEE
Date	21st April 2020
Agenda Item	7f

To consider repairs to the ramp at Parsonage St allotments

The ramp at the Parsonage Street allotments was originally built, not by HTC, to assist access to the allotments, which are considerably below road level. It has since fallen to the Council to manage the ramp, which has now fallen into disrepair. To lessen the gradient, and to make access possible for wheelbarrows and wheelchairs, the ramp was built as a hairpin bend. The surface is wooden planks covered with wire netting to prevent slipping, with what was once a sturdy fence at either side. The plank surface is now becoming unsafe as the planks are rotting and there is now a risk of falling through, which could cause injury to anyone using the allotments. The risk of injury is of concern, as the council would be held responsible.

HTC has received 2 quotations for this work, although other fencing companies were contacted and have not responded. These are in Items 7f(a) and Item 7f(b) to be viewed and analysed before the meeting.

£1000 was allocated in the 20/21 budget to pay for this, when it was thought that the work could have been carried out by Tim and Jason. The job is too large for them to carry out in working hours. Of the £1000 set aside from the 19/20 surplus for water on the allotments, £398 was spent on tanks (excl VAT), which leaves £600 which could go towards the ramp repairs. Since the extra income from the allotments is not needed to pay for use of water, Council could consider using the £650 to go further towards paying for the ramp repair.

Recommendation: that HTC considers appointing one of the contractors to do the repairs to the ramp at Parsonage street allotments.



Sarah Greateorex

Town Clerk