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| Committee   | <b>Full Council</b> |
| Date        | <b>19 May 2025</b>  |
| Agenda Item | <b>12</b>           |

### **To consider allotment management**

Almost all of the allotments managed by Halstead Town Council are leased by the council from Braintree District Council, on a 20 year lease. As the leases on several of the allotment sites are shortly to expire, HTC contacted BDC to ask for a renewal of these leases. Officers at Braintree took some time to respond, and then invited Halstead officers to a Teams meeting. It transpired at the meeting that the officers deemed it sensible to allow ownership of the allotments to pass to HTC. They are now exploring this with members, and think it very likely that ownership will be passed to us in the next few months. This would just be a matter of establishing that we are the legal owners. There would be no costs or extra work involved, as all work in managing the allotments is carried out by our groundsmen already. It would secure the tenure for the allotment holders, and ensure that people wish to take allotments on in future.

They will become Statutory plots, which will mean that it would never be possible in future for any building to take place on the allotment sites. Colchester Road allotments already have this status.

**Recommendation:** that HTC notes the report and waits for confirmation.

*Sarah Greateorex*

Sarah Greateorex    **Town Clerk**