Action

Rikki Beattie of South Road Allotments sent Peter Sandwell an email asking re asset transfer of allotments. Peter sent to Council Solicitors and awaiting word back on their interpretation of the Empowerment.

Andrew thinks it unlikely that the allotments will come under asset transfer - movement is generally to self management.

It was noted that the Council has no responsibility for private allotments, but it may be in their interest to include them.

Peter said he would try and progress lease. Unlikely to be given asset transfer of ground in public park.

Empowerment Bill

Various matters re guidance and food strategy - Kate Treharne and Alison Anderson both went to meeting. The meeting seemed to be looking for ideas from us instead of giving advice. No proposals on paper yet.

Allotment Act: write Food Growing Strategy. Until we get guidance a bit stuck.

1. Matters arising from Minutes of 10 August

   Agreed

2. Remit and purpose of meeting and group

   Look at remit in view of changes / work required by Council.

3. Membership of Group

   Representatives of all allotments, where no Societies present - individuals.

4. Programme of Implementation

   4.1 Welcome Pack on the website www.dundeecity.gov.uk/environment/allotments. Additional welcome packs have been made up, if required.
4.2 Proposed fencing work for City Road went to Committee recently - work involves improvements to the boundary fence, including gates. The possible small piece of additional ground not included.

The contact is Doug Shearer regarding removal of equipment from the fence line.

£30K allocated next year for allotment security - Kinghorne Road side of Kinnaird and Murrayfield. Once secure fencing in, the Lease will make allotments responsible for this in future.

Gates not secure - foothold - Stirling Park, South Road. J Wilson/ J Pratt

Federation raised at last meeting to upgrade security on most of sites: 2 security lights to each site - it was confirmed the Council have no responsibility to do this. Would funding be available? In the past the Police recommend dark sites better to deter crime.

The group to ask Police to speak to Federation - new Community Police in Maryfield and Coldside areas.

5. Immediate tasks / short term issues

5.1 Fencing
As above

5.2 Leases
As above

5.3 Skips
Richard White was introduced to the group as the Waste Management representative. Richard had only just been assigned this task so had limited information to bring to the group. He did report as follows:

- The cost of skips to the Council in the last year, just for allotments, was over £20K
- 50 tonnes have been moved in the last 10 months for Stirling Park and Kinnaird (68 uplifts)
- Enforcement should be called in for fly tipping - if no skips they will be responsible
- Skips on Allotment sites at present are: Stirling Park x 2; Kinnaird x 1; Magdalen Green x 2; Old Craigie Road x 1; Ancrum Road x 1; City Road x 1; and Murrayfield x 1
- Skips were meant to be for garden waste, but no-one can remember the last time skip contents have gone for composting. It is difficult to prove who is using the skips incorrectly.

Richard to do more work and get back to next meeting. He did mention there was a lot of information in the Welcome Pack.

As a council we are looking to take away all skips. An uplift service can be offered, someone can assess the waste and give a cost. Some allotments have access issues for uplifting.

West Law don’t have any skips, but their biggest problem is the removal of glass.

Lynne Nealon, City Road, asked if someone could come on to the site and see how the skips work.

Andrew reported that Edinburgh had moved from skips to bins, but as of next year there will be no collection whatsoever, Edinburgh have 170 sites.
5.4 Peter advised that Kate Trehanne’s post has been made permanent (Community Allotment Officer), she is responsible for community gardens, but will have additional role of overseeing and co-ordinating in our direct managed allotments.

Robertson Street Community Garden is going ahead, working with a number of groups - fencing post and wire with Raspberries. The design is based on raised beds built into hill.

Whorterbank Tattie Patch to go to committee, once a design and cost has been agreed.

6. **Longer term action - Allotment Survey / Audit**

6.1 **Surveys**
City Road returned a further 12 completed surveys.

7. **Group Updates**

7.1 Murrayfield
- Committee re-elected
- Fencing and footpath good
- 4 further evictions and no longer internal problems
- St Luke’s and Longhaugh coming in. Criminal Justice coming to help

7.2 Ancrum Road
- No representative

7.3 City Road
- New Committee.
- Retaining wall - no update. Peter will speak to Ross Watson and ask him to have a look.  
- Erosion on main path - John Whyman has been and had a look, Peter will check outcome.

7.4 West Law
- Nothing to report.

7.5 Old Craigie Road
- Nothing to report

7.6 Dundee Federation of Garden & Allotment Holders
- Federation going great, meetings well attended. Planning for next year’s Show
- Website being used more
- Kingspark School - helping to re-design sensory garden

8. **AOCB**

8.1 Federation looking at Insurance - looking to reduce cost by insuring associations through Federation. Advised Council require £5m Public Liability Insurance as a minimum.
9. **Date of Next Meeting**
   Wednesday 15 February 2017 @ 2pm
   Meeting Room 1:1, 3 City Square

cc: Elaine Zwirlein
   Gary Robertson
   Rod Houston
   Michelle Glass
   Jake Pratt
   Jay Grant
   Jim Wilson
   Sandy Boyd
   John Whyman
   Ross Watson
   Grant Orrock
   Kate Treharne