

Briefing Note

Both myself and Deborah met with the water engineer on Friday 6th November at the allotments, given the lockdown situation it was prudent to limit the numbers attending to ensure everyone's protection from Covid.

The water engineer confirmed at the meter that we currently have a standing (not running) pressure of approx. 6 bar of pressure and approx. 50litres per min and in the words for the engineer should be more than enough to supply multiple hoses. The engineer then continued to check each of the taps and could see that there was an issue with more than one hose. It was also noted that at least 3 of the taps had leaks when turned on.

I questioned the engineer on the size of the supply line but as this was under the meter and out of sight he could not confirm the diameter, I then asked the engineer if increasing this would make a difference and his answer was that even if we considered installing a commercial supply which would come at significant cost both for the install and the ongoing service charge for the meter, and even then the difference will be minimal. It was his recommendation that we looked at a 4 sq. m bulk tank and then a variable speed water pump. This is exactly what they do in areas in Brighton where the "running" pressure drops or where they supply to high rise buildings.

So, there are a number of options that we now need to consider, and I will start to consolidate costs for all

Just one last point to note that as he looked at the meter, he noticed that we had actually been missing a rubber washer so in effect we have been receiving free water. We should expect that now this has been resolved to see a slight increase in bill.

By Cllr Alexander

Dated 10th November 2020