

## **Irrigation Report for Sept 17<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting.**

### **Consumption at end of Aug**

Total consumption is 2298 cm<sup>3</sup> (12.3%) less than last year. 1443 cm<sup>3</sup> of this reduction is council land watering. The target was 11% less than last year so we are ahead of the target.

### **Costs at end of Aug**

Total cost of water is 184329€. This is 42643€ less than last year (18.78%) and 17676€ below budget (8.75%).

### **Notes**

We now get two lots of meter readings. The water comes in through the new Acuamed meter and then either goes through a CREA meter to the Council land, or a separate CREA meter to the Community land. This gives us a breakdown of where the water is being used. The Acuamed meter only gives us the total. It is the Acuamed meter which generates our bills. The Acuamed and CREA volumes are on one of the spreadsheets accompanying this report. You will notice there is a difference between the two, which was a surprise.

The new Acuamed supply goes through filters before going through the CREA meters. If the system detects that the filters need cleaning it cleans them automatically with the water that has just come through the Acuamed meter. After cleaning, the dirty water is pumped away into the reservoir, and never goes through the CREA meters. This means we pay for water which never gets to the CREA meters, or our gardens, but shows in the Acuamed volumes and costs but not in the CREA volumes. You would expect, therefore, that this may be the reason why the volumes are different and that the Acuamed meters would show higher volumes going through their meters than the CREA meters. I have measures for 6 weeks since the Acuamed service started but it shows the opposite is the case for 4 of the weeks. Very strange. We have been told that the meters have a 2% margin of error. We have measured the difference between our readings and they are showing only a 0.68% difference so, if we accept what has been said, this would be within acceptable tolerances. However, I have asked Pepa to ask Acuamed how often they check the accuracy of the meters and whether they are ever re-calibrated.

Another difficulty we now have in interpreting the data is the fact that, because we want to measure where the water is going we need to use CREA meter readings, but we are charged according to the Acuamed readings which, as I have explained, don't give the same measurement. Each month the budget will have to show a small adjustment to cover this.

IVA has increased this month so to save us some money we have paid in advance for some future supplies which has saved us approx €2000.

IRM changed the way they charged for IVA when they took over from CREA, which resulted in an additional cost of almost 6000€. We told them this was unacceptable and that we weren't prepared to pay it. With assistance from Resortalia IRM were persuaded to change their mind.

We are seeing a very high number of decoder failures and have had to buy another 40 units at a negotiated price of £3176.34 (c.3986€). They are bought in the UK as they are cheaper there) Nigel is taking two broken ones back to the UK for examination by the manufacturer to try and find out why we are having so many failures.

**Ron**