

**Ally Pally Allotments Association**  
**Committee Meeting**  
**09.12.12**

**PRESENT:** Bob Hare, Alison Liney, John Wilkinson, Arthur Leigh, Sally Chubb, Pamela Harling,

**APOLOGIES:** Peter Campbell, Jessica York, Jill Pullan

**MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:** Agreed

**MATTERS ARISING**

**Website:** Website space purchased by Bob but needs some more work to get it up and running.

**North London Waste Authority Compost** – Bob will be discussing with Mark Evison, Manager of Alexandra Palace whether it is feasible a) for us to share their deliveries of compost to the A.P. works yard, or b) if they hire a front loader sometimes and whether this might be used to transfer compost to a smaller truck to get into our site, or c) whether a special delivery of compost for us can be made to the Grove Lodge car park.

**Top Gate** – This has now been repaired by Colin and painted by Bob.

**Shelving in Trading Shed** – This project now completed and show equipment moved to the shelves from the Meeting Shed. The old show trestles need to be checked for woodworm.

**Taps** – The stolen taps have been replaced. Alison and Bob to meet with Colin to plan replacing the rest of the taps with gate valves with a handle or lever and non-return valves. The exact specification of the replacement taps depends on the price. Arthur pointed out that there is a tap which is not positioned correctly over the water tank and needs moving.

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

**Flower verges** – Bob to pursue with Mark Evison Fred Clarke's idea of adding a wild flower mix suitable for foraging bees to the grass verges along Alexandra Park Way.

**Security** - Bob to discuss the positioning of security cameras with Mark Evison of Alexandra Palace as these are being installed in the Park. He will also look at the positioning of barbed wire and the warning signs. Alison has been sent the appropriate wording by the Council and where to obtain the signs.

**Shed Size** – Some tenants need to be reminded of the specified maximum size of shed permitted on the site. Details are in the Tenants Agreement.

**Social Shed** – Bob has bought a large kettle/teapot (£5.00).

**Discount Cards** – Bob has the new supply of these in hand.

**SITE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**Lettings-** Waiting list 212, Vacant Plots 6.

**Top path** – The work party completed the work on the path. It would be costly to repair the path in a more permanent way. There are some issues to be resolved along the top path about the position of the boundary. Alison and Bob to tackle this with the Council.

**Vacant plot clearance** – This was cleared by Alison, John, Evelyn, Peter and others.

**Tree work** – Completed as planned.

**Shed repositioned** – As requested by Buckingham Lodge, a shed was moved away from the boundary.

**Compost toilet cleaning** – Thanks to Alison, Annie and Sally for signing up to the rota. More volunteers are needed.

**Bark chips** – We have too many bark chippings coming onto the site at the present time. Alison will put up a notice asking the tree surgeons who deliver it to suspend supplies for the time being.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Peter unable to attend today but has sent a report and his figures have been noted - £324 available in the current account with a claim for £283 outstanding for trading shed shelving etc. and £1799 in the reserve account.

The Committee agreed to the separation of those funds we raise ourselves in plant sales etc. and funds we receive annually from the Council. The funds we raise ourselves should be used for those items not covered in the Council grant, e.g. social shed equipment

## **SOCIAL SHED**

The shed has been cleared and the floor has been painted by Peter and Colin. We need a sub-committee to organise get-togethers and events in the social shed and hope to start some coffee mornings from April next year. Bob will email tenants and ask them to volunteer for the social shed committee and make suggestions for the use of the shed.

## **PLANT SALE 2013**

Bob will establish the best date for this, in May, avoiding the Shepherds Hill plant sale. Once he has a date he will email tenants to invite them to a meeting 6 weeks or so before the sale, to plan the event, which was so successful last year. All contributions of plants for the sale will be gratefully received.

## **ALLOTMENTS FORUM**

Rent increases of 100% are planned in the Council's budget proposals. The rent for a 10 pole plot would increase from £63.50 to £127.00. This seems to indicate a fundamental change in the way the rents are calculated and will provide the Council with an annual profit on the allotments rather than an amount to cover repairs and infrastructure. The Allotments Forum will be looking at the best way to fight these increases. There have been several mistakes in the calculating of this year's rents to tenants already reported to Alison. Tenants are warned to check the amount they have been asked to pay and Alison will make information about the correct charges available.

## **A.O.B.**

The theft of a beehive on the Bee Plot was noted.

The committee was most grateful to Alison for making her kitchen available for the meeting.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 17 March 2013 at 2pm

The committee would like to record their sadness at the recent death of Sue Ritchie, who was a member of the committee until our 2012 AGM.

Sue's family have said that if anyone would like to make a donation in her memory, they would like this to be to the Marie Curie Hospice in Hampstead. If you would like to join with those who are doing this, please place your cheque made out to Marie Curie Hampstead, in an envelope marked 'for Sue Ritchie' in our postbox beside the Trading Shed door by 4 pm on Sunday 13th Jan, and Sally will send it on. If you wish to send your donation yourself you can donate either by phone (Ring Aisha on 02078533436) or send your cheque to the Hospice Fundraising Dept., 11 Lyndhurst Gdns, Hampstead, London NW3 5NF.