

MINUTES OF ALLY PALLY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING 16.06.18

Present: Peter Campbell (Chair), Sally Chubb, Alison Liney, Jill Ellis, John Wilkinson, Steve Shaw,

Apologies for absence : Angela Silva -Jones, Michael Harrison, Peter Campbell

Minutes of last meeting : Agreed

Matters Arising :

Committee Members: Michael Harrison has resigned from the Committee. Thanks for all the support he has given the Committee over the past years. Please will Bob check that Christine Heath is on the APAA Committee email address.

Dehydrating Toilet: Still not working. John has contacted other allotments with the same toilet and they have to pump out once a year. John is investigating the best deal for this yearly service. He estimates it may cost about £150 a year. All agreed a necessary cost.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Bob Hare

Filming: As agreed at a previous meeting, Bob asked Alexandra Palace to add us to the list of their filming locations. Alison also asked Alex Fraser. Ally Pally are waiting for a response from Alex. Bob will chase.

Gazebo: Thanks for Steve and John for visiting Crews Hill and several other places to try and view and purchase a new gazebo. Steve has bought a new gazebo on line and Bob will fit a 'gutter' where they abut, to prevent splash if it's raining.

Communal plot: Fleece boxes to be dismantled by Bob and Angela. Pumpkins to be planted. Bob will sort, reduce and arrange disposal of excess pots.

SITE SECRETARY'S REPORT – Alison Liney

General items: Rent invoices and administration in general are in chaos with a backlog of new tenants to be registered. Alex intends to appoint a temporary administrative officer on a six month contract. I am keeping back new forms until then. Still no news on the appointment of a full-time allotments officer.

Date protection: John has produced a draft notice about the General Data Protection Regulation for tenants to sign.

Lettings: The waiting list will be 123 when I have taken off the 8 long list people who did not renew their interest in January. I need to print off a hard copy of the last email I sent them. I new joint tenancy, 39D A.P., 2 probationary tenancies, 51 A.P., 31B A.P., and 4 vacant plots but 2 are not yet in a state in which they can be let. 3 more plots will be vacant in 30 days and 1 plot holder needs to clear rubbish to keep the plot.

Repairs and Maintenance:

Green maintenance: I have asked Tim to cut back along the top path before 23rd June. Agreed that Tim will be asked to clear round the two storage sheds.

Terry Vanson has asked the Parks Dept. to leave grass cuttings for her by the top gate. Agreed.

Plot 2 A.P.: Dick Tomlinson is arranging to meet with Veolia to get a quote. They may require us to trim the grass first.

Council repairs: No date yet for replacement of vehicle gate. New top gate and fence a success.

APAA communal plot: We have agreed to allow Sue Hanson, who will give up her plot in the autumn, to cultivate a raised bed on the end of the plot.

39BC: Tree surgeon to cut down the trees, which are not fruit trees, and are in the middle of the plot, to make the plot viable, and also cut willow back.

Security camera: This needs a power source other than batteries. John investigating Photo voltaic cells. PVC's could also power some lighting in the Trading Shed.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Steve Shaw

Steve gave us a copy of the Accounts as at 31st March 2018, which will be presented to the AGM in July and which have been audited. We have currently a healthy bank balance thanks to the winding up of CHADAHS, the Plant Sale and the Cafe profits. The plant sale profits were £600 from pre-sales, £1000 plants at the sale, £600 from the Cafe, £113 from Bric-a-brac sale, £170 from post-sales. Decisions need to be made as to how to spend our money. Green maintenance and repairs, e.g. plumbing, are not all covered by the Council grant. The road through the allotments is in a poor state and getting worse. The council is not obliged to provide vehicular access to the site.

Thanks very much to Steve for providing the accounts.

TRADING SHED – Peter Campbell

There have been seven deliveries of stock this year, more than usual! The biggest seller is the farm manure and we have sold slightly less compost. The volunteer rota to work in the shop works well. Thanks to Peter for running the Trading Shed so successfully.

PLANT SALE – Peter Campbell

Another wonderful sale. The spare pots can be stored on David's plot. We don't need the larger pots and these need to be taken away. More small square pots would be useful next year. Pete will ask the RHS team about the best growing medium. Pete will propose there is a Deputy Plant Sale Organiser at the AGM and ask for a volunteer. Thanks to Peter and all those who helped to make it such a successful sale.

RHS QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION 23rd June

We will have refreshments first. The gazebos will be put up in the morning. Alison will send out an email for volunteers to help. John will coordinate the volunteers. There will be no parking in the car park on that day. Alison has done all the initial organising for this event and in hindsight we need to make sure that a small sub-committee are willing and able to organise events such as these, rather than leave it to one person to initiate the work involved.

AGM ON 14TH JULY

A notice of the meeting will go out today. We need volunteers for putting up and taking down the gazebo. No cars in the car park that day and the following morning. A BBQ following the AGM has been organised.

ALLOTMENTS OUTING 22ND JULY

There are 2 places left on the allotment outing to Barnsdale gardens.

ORCHARD PROJECT – Peter Campbell

There will be a second pruning workshop on June 21st. A workshop on summer pruning of apple and pear trees will follow on Sat 1st September. A workshop day involving a primary school may be organised in September. Peter and Alison have already done some initial work on this.

APPLE PRESSING – Peter Campbell

To be arranged.

THE ALEXANDRA PALACE AND PARK CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – John Wilkinson

There have been no meetings recently and the committee will be wound down in due course.

A.O.B.

Hedgehogs – we have made sure there are holes under the new fencing at the top gate, for hedgehogs to move between our allotments and the park. Someone keeps filling in the one by the gate!

TOP SHED RENOVATION

This is a winter project. We will discuss further at the September Committee meeting. Maybe we can work on it in stages.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 8th September