

**MINUTES OF ALLY PALLY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION  
COMMITTEE MEETING June 1st**

**Present:** Bob Hare (Chair), Sally Chubb, Alison Liney, Jill Ellis, Annie Elliott Evans, John Wilkinson, Angela Silva Jones, Peter Campbell, Pamela Jackson,

**Apologies for absence :** Steve Shaw, David Craig.

**Minutes of last meeting:** Agreed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

**Allotment Road:** The repairs on the Allotment road by John and Steve, which involved filling in some of cracks and shoring up part of the subsiding road, are holding up well and survived the winter. John and Steve plan to do more similar repairs.

**Plant Sale:** A great success. Thanks to all who helped. We took £450 in pre-sales and £150 since. No final total as yet but we could be heading for around £3000 which includes £450 in pre-sales and £150 in post-sales. The advertising organised by Bob and others, worked well.

**CHAIRS REPORT - Bob Hare**

**Scaffolding Planks:** Phil Jenner, 19GLM, is organising a delivery of scaffolding planks which he has advertised on the News Email.

**Communal Pumpkins:** Once the fleece 'boats' are removed from the Communal Plot Bob plans to plant squash and pumpkins.

**Communal Plot:** Bob is looking at some second hand benches for the paved area on the communal plot. Some weeding needs to be done between the slabs.

**SITE SECRETARY – ALISON LINEY**

**Lettings:** The waiting list is 88. 3 Probationers – Cressida Foster on plot 2A The Nursery to 10/6/19, Debbie Hembra on 39 GLM to 4/8/19, Helen Finch and Rose Christie on 23C Alexandra Park to 1/8/19. Two new tenancies – Mehmet and Sevim on 9A Alexandra Park, Zubeyda Ortac on Plot 2A Alexandra Park. Two vacant plots – 8B Alexandra Park and 24A Alexandra Park.

Inspection with Emi Mehmet 3<sup>rd</sup> May – All the Non Compliance Notices given 4 more weeks. Some new Non Compliance Notices sent out. One tenant given a reprieve from NCN on compassionate grounds on condition a 3 month's probation completed.

**Leak from Springfield Avenue:** Alison showed Emi and has given him copies of the previous correspondence concerning this leak.

**Green maintenance:** Bob to look at some work which needs doing with Alison on the top path to see if it's something a work party could do or whether we need to give the work to Tim who does our green maintenance.

**Tree work:** Yesterday, 31<sup>st</sup> May, Dan the contractor we often use for tree work, removed the dead tree from plot 8 AP and the tops of the dead elms from 11 GLM. He quoted £195 for the ash shading plot 24C AP, by the bottom gate. The Council probably won't let the tenant do the work himself because of insurance worries. Birds are nesting in the ivy at the moment so we should wait until Autumn. This is to be looked at again as it might be best to remove it altogether. There are also some smaller ash saplings which we will ask Tim to remove.

**Work Party 5<sup>th</sup> May 35 GLM:** The work party to remove the jasmine covered 'fence' beside 35GLM was an outstanding success! There was also some improvement work to the fence by 11BC Alexandra Park – does more need to be done?

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Steve Shaw**

The Reserve Account balance is £6469, Current Account balance £13,577. Main expenditure: Gate £3520, main income: Haringey grant £958 for shed lighting, Cafe receipts £850, Plant Sale receipts £2979 (including pre-sales and post-sales so far).

**ALLOTMENT SHOP - Peter Campbell**

Another successful trading period! Peter has ordered another two deliveries, including another supply of horse manure, which is currently one of the most popular items.

**AGM**

We hope to recruit some new members to the Committee. Several committee members will talk to tenants who seem to have shown an interest. All the Committee willing to stand again except for Angela.

**Local Rules:** There need to be some changes to our Local Rules and all the notices about the AGM need to be circulated to tenants by June 22<sup>nd</sup> including a local rule banning heavy items being leant against the boundary fence as this can cause damage. We were considering

additional rules about the building up of rubbish on plots which can involve huge expense to the Association at a later date. However there is already provision in the tenancy agreement for the issuing of a Non Compliance Order for rubbish on plots and the new Allotments Officer is committed to pursue this course of action when necessary. Bob and Sally have also drawn up some guidelines for the siting and building of wildlife ponds which Bob will circulate to the Committee.

**Change to the Constitution:** We also need a change to the Constitution, allowing the creation of honorary members who no longer have plots on the site but who continue to offer a service to the site, in the Allotment Shop for instance or in the Cafe. This would be in the gift of the Committee, renewed annually, and give the honorary member the right to vote at the AGM.

**Get together after AGM:** Annie offered to buy some refreshments to have after the AGM for anyone who wishes to stay and socialise. £40.00 allocated from funds.

#### **HEDGEHOG HOLES**

Bob will contact Chris Carbone about his request for more hedgehog holes, which do not involve any damage to the fence, on the border between roughly Sally's plot to the bottom of the hill and Muswell Hill woods. Sally has spoken to several tenants in that area.

#### **PARKING IN THE GROVE CAR PARK**

Bob will contact Alexandra Palace to see if there is any possibility of Allotment Tenants being issued with passes for this car park.

#### **WORK PARTIES**

**Metal collection:** We now have to pay for our rubbish collections. We hope to organise a metal collection in July or August with a work party to remove some of the waste metal which has been accumulated by previous owners of plots and not removed by them when they left.

**Cafe ceiling:** Geoff has offered to remove the 'wavy' wooden ceiling in the Cafe, to reveal the inside of the roof which can be cleaned and painted.

#### **TRESPASSING BY TENANTS ON PLOTS AND DUMPING OF RUBBISH AND THEFT**

Unfortunately several incidents of this nature have been reported to the Committee recently. Tenants are reminded of 10.20 (b) in the Tenancy Agreement 'The Tenant shall not enter allotment gardens of other Tenants without permission from the Tenant or in the case of a vacant allotment garden the site secretary or allotment officer'.

#### **DEHYDRATING TOILET**

Thanks to John for organising the emptying of the toilet with help from Angela and Ulli. The liquid waste was syphoned into a tank and then syphoned into the contractor's tanker. The contractor John employed was efficient and reasonably priced. John estimates we may need to syphon off the toilet once a year or so, and on this occasion the level in the toilet had improved by itself since the previous inspection.

#### **THE ALEXANDRA PALACE AND PARK CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – John Wilkinson**

Nothing to report

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

**Harvest to Plate:** Suggested date Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Last year this was a successful event where tenants shared food they had grown and cooked.

**CCTV:** John suggested trying out an additional CCTV camera which is reasonably priced at £50.00 and could be sited very unobtrusively where there is a problem area on the site.

**Composting:** Pete and Steve hope to run a soil improving workshop, which also incorporates composting, again in the Autumn.

**Dehydrating Toilet cleaning:** Many thanks to Alison who cleans the toilet! She request the purchase of a packet of latex gloves. Agreed.

**Orchard Project::** There was a final workshop on grafting on 28<sup>th</sup> March. 40 people participated in the workshops altogether and there was a high level of good feedback which Peter gathered and sent to the Orchard Project. It was a very useful and successful project on the site and good value for money.

#### **DATES FOR THE NEXT MEETINGS**

September 7<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup> all at 2pm

AGM – July 20th

