

Ashfield Allotment Association

Treasurer **Joe Roper**

President **Eric Shaw**

Chairman **Daniel Barrington**

Minutes of Committee Meeting

14th April 2013, Meeting opened 11am

Present: Joe Roper, John Byrne, John Morris, Neill Davies, Colin Langeveld

Apologies: Daniel Barrington, Terry and Eddie Wilson

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING : Agreed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Request to keep hens: New member on P28B (not 28A as stated on last minutes), has been advised he may re-apply in August 2013, by which time he will have worked the plot for 6 months.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter received from tenant asking committee to remind people that children must be supervised on the allotments, due to the safety risks.

The committee agreed it could be dangerous, also anti social.

Notices will be placed on the boards.(JM)

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Ref full P61 and ½ P70A. Rents were not paid, letters sent, followed by Notice to Quit from Council. I have now been advised by Council that enough time has passed for these 2 people to remove their belongings, and I may now offer these plots to the next people on the Waiting List. I will do this soon, and collect rents to be forwarded to the Council.

P61 not suitable to divide into halves due to overhanging branches/trees and their roots, together with excessive shade on the boundary..

(Note : later it was decided to split this plot as it was too large for new member)

There was 1 new application for plot in March - TOTAL ON WAITING LIST = 34

Ref: Vandalism/Theft/Malicious acts on plots:

Notice required for the web site also notices for the boards advising members to report to the Police on phone No 101, they will issue a crime reference number, and may offer victim support. (JM please).

Affected individuals should do this, as it's not something which the committee can do on their behalf.

I advised the secretary of the ALA regarding the 'hen rustling' and he has notified all sites in Liverpool with the message to be vigilant!

Council offered to provide skip at short notice, particularly for new tenants who had inherited rubbish.

(Delivered the following day, 12th April)

TREASURERS REPORT

There are still onions and potatoes for sale, but we have made some profits on both, so far.

Rent has been paid to Council, and we have rebate for prompt payment.

Additional income has been made through the sale of flags, kindly provided by Lee P44B, and we have purchased 2 new picnic benches and paint, with some of the profits.

OPEN DAY 18th May:

There had been suggestions to delay the Open Day, but after discussion with George it was agreed to go ahead on the 18th May.

PLOT INSPECTION:

This would take place after today's meeting.(Details would be issued separately) .

A O B:

1. Compost: JB reported that Alty's compost seems to be different from their usual supplies. It may be perfectly good for growing but it is not very fine quality.

There was a discussion regarding alternative suppliers.

JM suggested KGLoach as they supply to other allotment sites, and have recently sent us a price list, however we would need to be able to use a pallet truck to move stores.

JM would make enquiries with other suppliers and report back to the committee.

2. Stand Pipe Parts: We recently had to wait for delivery of parts.

JM suggested we should have a supply in stock in case of urgent requirement.

He has found a company who can supply 5 x water couplings for £80.

Everyone agreed it would be a good idea, and JM will place order.

3. There was a discussion regarding "Gardening Partners".

People who help out on someone else's plot must be aware that they have no automatic right to the produce, or the plot, unless they are named on the Tenancy Agreement at the request of the plot holder.

4. Ivy: A resident whose garden backs on to P54 has complained about ivy growing along the fence, perhaps we should use suitable weed killer before its too high. (to be discussed further).

5. Security/Keys: There is still a problem in recovering keys from people who have left the plot, despite the offer to refund the value, (£10.). Keys are now sold for £20, so it is hoped this would encourage anyone leaving to return their key for refund.

Secondary key holders should all have signed the appropriate form.

In future JR will also record names of people who purchase keys, on the balance sheet, when he receives cash for banking.

Security is a major worry, particularly following the theft of hens. We can all only do our best and ask everyone to be vigilant, and report anything suspicious, or any gaps in our perimeter fencing.

Trespass on plots and theft of crops last year was very upsetting, we don't want a repeat.

There was no other business, the meeting closed 1200hrs

The next committee meeting will be Sunday 12th May, 11am.