

Minutes of the TGAA Committee meeting held at 11.00 via Zoom Tuesday 16th February 2021.

Present: Tony Hollander (chairman); Neil MacLennan (deputy chairman); Bob Crabtree (treasurer); Virginia Wallis (secretary and lettings secretary); Chris Beckett (shop); Jonathan Clark (website and machinery); Michael Wheale (compost); Robin Nicholas (water sub-committee).

Apologies: Roger Mumby-Croft who has decided to step down from his role as lettings secretary and so leave the committee.

Matters arising

Further to the action points completed since the committee meetings on 30th October 2020 and 18th January 2021:

- VW has yet to issue a warning to members that they should not drink the water provided on the allotment site;
- RN has yet to install plant netting on the water tank to enable climbers to disguise it;
- David Haynes will be dealing with nuisance trees in the first week of March unless the ground is still too soft;
- Weather permitting, the shrubs MW has ordered will be planted along near vulnerable parts of the perimeter fence to deter future intruders
- JC to arrange for the council team (under Julian Cooper) to come back to install a metal box over the lock on the equipment shed;
- THE NEXT TGAA COMMITTEE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT 11.00 ON TUESDAY 15TH JUNE 2021.

Update on becoming a cooperative

Thanks to both JC and MW for their thorough investigations into the process of becoming a cooperative and the steps we need to take. And thanks to JC for his detailed email sent in advance of the meeting. At some point, we will need to hold a special meeting for members to approve (or not) the decision to change to cooperative rather than association status. It is unlikely that this will happen before the TGAA AGM as changes need to be made to the model rules for them to be brought in line with our current rules.

Action: JC to liaise with Phil Baker of the ODFAA to ensure that the necessary changes are made to the model rules.

Action: JC to draft report on becoming a cooperative for the AGM.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This year's TGAA AGM is taking place on Saturday 27th March 2021 – time to be confirmed.

Action: JC to organise our own Zoom account so that we are not limited to a 40-minute session and to draft Zoom instructions and voting system.

Action: Everyone to draft written reports for VW to circulate to members before the AGM with an invitation to submit AOB ideas to VW before the meeting.

AGM reports

Chairman will cover the break-in and the steps we are taking to deter future intruders, the problem of under-used plots given our sizeable waiting list of 87, work on nuisance trees, the congratulation of the water team and volunteers.

Deputy Chairman will cover Covid and the water project with help from RN who will set out how the water project will work in the future.

Action: NM to refresh the Covid precautions at the allotment site.

Treasurer explain that the accounts are in pretty good shape, that those who lent money for the water project have been repaid and that the shop did particularly well this year.

Secretary will stress the importance of keeping contact details up-to-date and remind members about, the various discount schemes as well as the plant sale and swap.

Shop CB to promote the benefits of shopping at the allotment shop with a reminder that the shop makes available rat boxes and poison.

Action: JC and VW to continue to staff the shop until we can go back to normal post Covid.

Lettings secretary will cover number of plots and people on the waiting list.

Action: VW to draw up a shortlist of people as possible replacements for RM.

Website and machinery JC will encourage the safe use of machinery and the importance of returning it in good order after use.

Action: JC needs to do a lot of updating of the website – water provision in particular.
Compost MW will report back on the state of the communal compost and bonfire.

AOB

Harvest supper is taking place on Saturday 13th November 2021.

Mulch JC to organise for the council team to deliver mowings fro Part Meadow to be dumped behind the equipment shed.

Apple trees TH to ask Chris Lanczak of Waterperry Gardens to prune the orchard and the tree in front of the shop

The meeting ended at 12.15