

Minutes of TGAA Committee Meeting held at 23 Chalfont Road on 20th June 2023

Present:- Tony Hollander (Chairman), Neil MacLennan (Vice Chairman), Bob Crabtree (Finance), Rachel Faulkner (Secretary), Jonathan Clark (Website, Shop and Lease), Virginia Wallis (Lettings Secretary), Robin Nicholas (Water System)

Apologies:- Michael Wheale, Philip James,

Minutes arising from the last Committee meeting.

The following actions have been completed

- The well on Plot 7 has been filled in.
- The shortage of cutlery and crockery at the Harvest Supper has been reported to the SMI
- A pruning lopper/saw has been provided by a member of the Committee
- The fruit trees by the pond near to the entrance were pruned earlier in the year.

Finance

RC reported that the TGAA has a balance of £17,000. The increase in revenue is largely due to new membership fees following further division of several plots.

Replacement perimeter fencing may be required which will need careful budgeting.

Security

Security has been reviewed following the recent theft of the solar panels and some items from the shop.

- The code on the entrance gates will be changed and members reminded about not divulging the code to non members.
- Members on the shop rota have been reminded about the locking/unlocking routine.

Water

RN described the new measures taken to secure the replacement solar panels and their subsequent tilting to avoid water pooling. He is grateful for the help provided by JC and MW.

The system is working as before and the replacement costs total £1282.17

A spare trough remains available and members will be asked to submit a written request if they feel there is a particular need near their plot.

Machinery

TH reported that the mowing rota is full. The sit on mower is currently being serviced and repaired by Meadhams. The machine is about 6 years old and following a discussion about battery operated sit on mowers it was agreed to monitor its reliability and potential replacement costs against those of a battery operated mower.

Bonfires and Compost

TH reported that MW had everything in hand as usual with the compost bins and bonfire arrangements. Additional railings for the compost bins, donated by a member, are a useful addition to keeping the compost area tidy.

Shop

JC will buy some more twine to replace the stock lost when the solar panels were taken.

MW has paid for an 'historic' roll of wire netting which had been unsold for many years.

Lease

The latest newsletter from the ODFAA tells us that OCC is yet to make any decisions on the new lease structure. The TGAA Committee continues to believe that becoming a co-operative is the best option.

Plot Letting

VW confirmed that all the plots are currently let and there are many keen new members.

Trees and Ponds.

VW still has a list of 10 members who would like trees removing from their plots. David Haynes would be asked to fell these.

TH expressed concern over several small willows growing next to the pond near the entrance.

Action. VW would suggest a date for a plot inspection and to look at the trees in question.

Action. JC to contact Chris Bell from the Council about pruning trees on the southern border of the allotments

Cotteslowe Larder

Someone has mended the Larder Cupboard door hinge so no new crates have been bought. Deliveries to Cotteslowe have recommenced and a rota of volunteers has been organised by Mary Gurr.

AOB

Martin Fleminger Plot 65W has volunteered to help with anything 'practical'.

Action. TH will contact him to find out more.

Committee Membership. Unfortunately before this year's AGM in March members were not reminded to put themselves forward for election to the Committee.

The Committee discussed the suggestion made at the AGM that committee members should have three year terms and took no decision.

Action. RF to send out an email a month before the AGM reminding members of the TGAA that anyone interested in joining the Committee should advise the Secretary by email no later than two weeks before the AGM meeting. Additionally members would be advised should there be any vacancies on the Committee.

Date of next meeting:- **Tuesday 17th October**

The meeting closed at 12.30pm