

AGM – Minutes Date: 6th May 2016 - Wesley Room - Methodist Church.

Collection of rent from 6pm.

- **7 pm meeting** - Apologies – Howells/Tim Barber/Colin Hewitt/Dave Mace.
- **Members present** – 55 members including the committee.
- **Mins of the last meeting** – 6th May - Cogges Manor Farm – to sign and approve - any actions from minutes. Signed and agreed.
- **Chair's report**
 - a. - Changes to current agreement – reasons for this as even committee had different ones. It is a legal document and therefore we need to ensure all tenants have the same document. Draft agreement way in advance for comments which has not had many comments (chemicals/greenhouses/livestock) see notes below
 - b. Cost of clearing of plots - £140 per plot to be cleared. Committee has purchased a brush cutter or strimmer to be sorted at B Fenton by Newland allotment – still waiting for legal rental documentation as soon as it has been done we will inform.
 - c. Bird boxes are available to hang on allotment – please let M Killick know if you would like one at your allotment site.
 - d. Pest control – please report if you notice a problem.
 - i. **Lakeside** - Mr Hickman from the council has been informed and has accepted there is a problem with fencing.
 - ii. **Hailey Road** – Rat complaint from residents however he has confirmed there is no problem.
 - iii. **Newland** – No reports.

Waiting list – at present we are 65 people still on the waiting list – Councillor D Enright came to a committee meeting – WAA have not been asked to run new sites at Curbridge therefore as it stands at the moment we still only have 3 sites.

Compost toilet – committee has been looking into this and spent time thinking who maintains them on other sites (Lakeside has one) so it is on the back burner at the moment.

Livestock and Plots - The AA state you can keep hens and rabbits since 1950. One of the reasons we propose the change specifically to chickens only under the condition of RSPCA conditions.

Thank the Committee – we are all tenants and no different to anybody else.

Draft of the tenancy – members to have their say on the draft document. The committee has not addressed the original agreement saying that glass should be replaced by polycarbonate – so we can recommend the use of polycarbonate but if you wish to use glass it will be your responsibility.

CHANGE COULD BE If you use glass it is your responsibility to clear the sight and ensure your own safety. No one is asking you to replace any glass at the moment. Open to the floor. No objections to using the glass but it was passed that the WAA members wish for the use of glass and they will take full responsibility for themselves and the clearing.

FROM THE FLOOR - Point 3.3 was questioned – the charge of water will added on the rental charge. Treasurer explained how we pay the water – per site for the amount of sites in arrears.

Proposed Tim Partridge proposed – Dave seconded – draft was unanimously agreed.

- **Treasure's report** 22nd April the latest statements - £6250.36 in the bank.

- **Election of new offices and committee**
 - a. **Chair** – Mary Killick – Proposed by Barry Fenton - seconded by Dave Barber
 - b. **Vice chair** – Geoff Branner proposed by Row Martin - seconded by Dave Barber
 - c. **Treasurer** – Margaret Eadle proposed by Tim Partridge - seconded by Geoff Branner
 - d. **Secretary** – Row Martin proposed by Tim Partridge - seconded by Geoff Branner.
 - e. **Committee members** volunteers are:
 - i. David Barber
 - ii. Claire Johnson
 - iii. Lynne Berry – waiting list
 - iv. Val Fisher – Website
 - v. Dave Mace
 - vi. Tim Brown
 - vii. Barrie Fenton
 - viii. Opened up to the floor for more committee members – no one came forward on the night.

- **Election of Dispute Panel** – Rev. Partridge/ Colin Newitt/ Judith Leegood/ Janet Harrison

- **Rents for 2017-18** - Lakeside at present pays more if you have 2 half plots – originally it was decided historically the use of water. The floor decided that Lakeside should pay the same for half for a half plot.
 - a. Chair proposed and the floor full plot £36 and half plot £18 – agreed.

- Talk from Bee Keepers Association (Witney Bees) about attracting bees to your plot.
Witneybees@hotmail.com

Presentation of Best Kept Allotments – certificates will be posted.

Andy Howells to Present of Cup of Best Kept Allotment in Witney to Mr Kitto.

i. Best overall winner for 2016 – Mr Kitto

- ii. Best allotment at Hailey Road – Mr and Mrs Sibley (plot 7)
- iii. Runner up at Hailey Road – Mr and Mrs Collis (plot 28)
- iv. Best allotment at Lakeside – Mrs Busby and Mrs Shakles (plot 14)
- v. Runner up at Lakeside – Mr and Mrs Wilsdon (plot 12)
- vi. Best kept allotment at Newland – Mr Kitto (plot 7)
- vii. Runner up at Newland – Mr Mackenzie (plot 19)

• **A.O.B. -**

- a. Next newsletter – criteria for best plot of the year.
- b. Items WAA own now – post rammer/brush cutter – items added to the newsletter.
 - i. What would tenants like? Tenants to contact with a wish list.
- c. MK looked into Post Box for WAA
- d. Phone not working anymore and WAA looking to get another up to date phone– on noticeboards/website
- e. Hailey Road new lockable noticeboard. Tenants asked to look at where to place at Lakeside.
- f. Used to be a noticeboard on road to say for allotment users only – others are parking there – MK to contact the council re replacing it.
- g. Locking of the gate at Lakeside – signage is up and we can only appeal to tenants to close the gates. MK to contact Mr Hickman re a new lock as it sticks.
- h. Fencing at Lakeside – MK to contact Mr Hickman once again.
- i. MK to ask about the hedge to let the sun in on the Four Pillars side. Tenants can trim the hedge if it is on your side of the fence.
- j. Two possible plots used for parking at Lakeside. MK and DM maintaining the plots.
- k. Thank you for the skips and much appreciated.

Meeting closed at: 8:41pm