

# MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 3 MARCH 2015 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

**PRESENT:** Peter Whewell (in the Chair), Krys Gaffney, Sue Brophy, Nicola Francis, Sue Johnson, Frank Lightfoot, Steve McDonnell, Sue Pownall and Tony Whittle.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received from John Reid.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING** held on 3 February 2015 had been distributed to Committee members. **SM** had discouraged the delivery of a consignment of bagged manure. Moorside had bought 10 nest-boxes and **FL** would install six of them around the site; the remaining four would be available for sale at £5 each. The Trading Hut had obtained a supply of birdfeeders which would be sold to members. It would be impractical for the Trading Hut to sell fence panels since there was a shortage of space to store them; the type of fence panel to stock was made difficult by the variability of fencing styles.

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**KG** had received notification that the NSALG membership was due for renewal at £2.50 per member.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

**NF** was chasing approximately 20 outstanding rents. The deadline for payment is the end of February; members who have not paid by the end of March would be given notice to leave.

### **TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT**

**SP** thanked all those who had looked after Trading Hut matters in her absence. She was interested in a new product, mineralised straw mulch, which purported to deter slugs and snails. However, she would have to order a minimum of 25 bags at £8.60 each to sell at £10 per bag and felt that more information, and demand from gardeners, was needed on the product before committing to such a large outlay.

### **WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTIONS**

There were 17 people on the waiting list. **TW** had been busy letting the following plots:

31 - Mike Sanderson

56a - John and Christina Cranford

56b - Mary Melton

60a - Barry Pentland

60b - Simon Rushton

71a - Gloria and David Wang

71b - Heri Pinto

74a/b Andreas Welz

Plot 109a had become vacant. The tenant on plot 86a had not worked the garden and the rent was unpaid; **TW** would contact her to clarify the position since the Plant Scheme was interested in cultivating that half of the plot. John Ludlow on plot 4 had asked for permission to erect a greenhouse in front of his hut; this was agreed. Mary Melton on plot 56b wanted to put up a 7' x 5' shed at the back of her plot; there was no objection to this provided that she left a 4' gap between her shed and Neil Souter's greenhouse. The first site inspection would be on 7 April.

### **BEE GROUP**

There was light bee activity on sunny days.

### **NAWG MATTERS**

Work was in progress for the 2015 City Show.

### **PLANT SCHEME**

Seed sowing had begun! The group would be meeting on 5 March to assign sowing tasks.

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## OTHER SITE GROUPS

**Bee Garden group:** clearing work in the garden was in progress.

**Newsletter group:** **SP** and **SJ** would shortly be starting work on an electronic version of the newsletter. The Association would bear any reasonable production costs for the very small number of members who wanted a hard copy of the newsletter.

## SHOW COMMITTEE

The committee had met at 4.30 p.m. The show would be held on 12 September 2015. Pat Francis would be applying to the Wingrove Ward for a grant of £230 to print the show schedule. **SJ** was sourcing raffle prizes and **TW** would approach *B&Q* for wheelbarrows and/or vouchers. **SB** had re-designed the flyers for the show.

## MOORSIDE TENANCY AGREEMENT

The new tenancy agreement was being handed out to new members as a pack and had already been signed by 8 people. Existing members do not need to sign a copy of the agreement and a grant would be sought to have the document formally printed.

## MOORSIDE NEW TENANTS ADVICE LEAFLET

An advice leaflet would be produced for new tenants. Individual members of the committee were asked to compile a paragraph on relevant topics for the leaflet.

## EASTER SKIP

A skip would be ordered for Thursday 2 April. **KG** would ask the Allotments Officer to order the skip through the Council and Moorside would pay the hire cost.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ **NF** reported that monies from the Trading Hut and Plant Scheme would be paid into the HSBC bank account and any surplus would be paid into a savings account. The Santander bank account would be used for rents and water rates.
- ◆ **SJ** suggested that the association should buy a motorised, battery-powered tipper truck for members to use. It costs around £500 and she would find out more about it.
- ◆ Tony Francis was trying to fix the lawnmower. The association's remaining equipment would need to be serviced.
- ◆ Colin Storey, who had given up his plot after many years, would be offered honorary membership of Moorside.

## DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 7 April 2015 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre. There will be a plot inspection at 2.00 p.m.**

The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.