

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 7 JUNE 2016 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

PRESENT: Sue Pownall (in the Chair), Krys Gaffney, Sue Brophy, Nick Coster, Sue Johnson, Steve McDonnell and Tony Whittle.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Frank Lightfoot and Nicola Francis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 3 May 2016 had been distributed to Committee members. The closing date for entries for the City Allotment Competition was 30 June; **SP**, **KG** and **TW** would meet on Tuesday 28 June at 10.00 a.m. and Nick Ghost would be invited to select the final nominations. **SP** was still awaiting a quotation from the council's maintenance department for the cost of laying and flattening chippings on the path fronting the Trading Hut; the Show Committee felt that £400 for stone chippings was excessive and that wood chippings could be used instead.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Allotments Forum would be held on Thursday 9 June in the Pandon Room at the Civic Centre; **SP** would be standing for re-election as a NAWG representative. There was an exhibition at the City Library (2 - 9 June) entitled 'Why do busy people need allotments?'

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NF was not present at the meeting. **SP** reported that the Plant Scheme held a balance of £750 and the Trading Hut held £2,250. The member on plot 30 had paid their rent.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

Trading Hut sales were going well. The strimmer had been sent for repair. **SP** was looking into the purchase of a new strimmer; *Stihl* manufacture one with a steel brushcutting head which costs £160. There was a leak in the gents' toilet which would need attention.

WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTION

There were 32 people on the waiting list and no plots had been re-let. The tenant on plot 32 had died and the inspection team had agreed that his father would take over the plot. **SP** had not received a reply from the tenants on plot 96 and would write to them again giving them 28 days' notice to quit. **SP** would write to the tenants on plots 89b and 90a about the state of their gardens. Marestail was becoming a problem on plots 47 and 101 and the tenants would be contacted. The new tenant on plot 107 had erected a new fence but would need to clear away the rubble from the garden. Members would need to be reminded about keeping the outsides of their plots tidy. The association was considering the purchase of a rechargeable hedgetrimmer, with a replaceable power pack; **SJ** would research into the cost of one.

NAWG MATTERS

The Allotments Officer was revising the guidelines set down by the city on buildings and structures for discussion at the July meeting of NAWG. The suggested regional revisions were in line with those recently introduced at Moorside.

MOORSIDE SHOW

Raffle prizes were needed for the show and **TW** would be buying a new gazebo. A RHS book on presenting produce for showing would be bought with proceeds from the show; it would be kept in the Trading Hut for use by members.

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PLANT SCHEME 2016

SJ reported that the scheme had taken £617. 55 during May but including change held pending a 'rounding up' position, she had banked £630.. The plant scheme would be opened for another evening session on 8 June from 5.00 - 7.00 p.m.; the last 'green Wednesday' had raised £50. The scheme had acquired another volunteer and plot 86 was being weeded and tidied. A plaque in memory of Dave Eason would be erected in the garden.

BEE GROUP

Bees were active and flying. **SB** and **KG** would liaise on planting up the containers. **FL** had identified some plants which could be added to the butterfly garden.

MOORSIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Some of the text in the projected guidelines document is copyrighted and would need revision; much of the information is already included in the Moorside tenancy agreement.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ An application had been received to erect an 8 ft x 6 ft greenhouse on plot 31, to be sited at the back of the plot; there were no objections to this application.
- ◆ The tenant on plots 68/69 had submitted an application to erect a greenhouse on one of the plots. It was felt, however, that the proposal needed more detail and clarification. A meeting with the tenant on his plot would be beneficial.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 5 July 2016 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre. There will be a site inspection at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 7.00 p.m.

KG

4 July 2016