

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2 MAY 2017 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Nicola Francis.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 11 April 2017 had been distributed to Committee members. The lighting in the men's toilet was considered adequate. To replace the generator with a new one would cost in the region of £1,000 whilst a secondhand one would cost around £500; it is needed during the winter months to heat the Trading Hut. The old generator was not covered under the insurance policy since it had not been housed in a dedicated container. Part of the perimeter fencing had been repaired but much of the rest of it was in need of repair. According to Moorside AGM minutes, the barbed wire around the perimeter had appeared in 1980 but neither the Association nor the Council had installed it. Not all honorary members held keys and some keys had been returned; the concept of honorary membership had been agreed at an AGM and the membership would be asked to re-consider it at the next AGM.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had received the first tranche of the rent demand from the Council and had passed it to **NF** for payment.

TREASURER'S REPORT

It was thought that two rents were still outstanding.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

Proceeds of around £1,200 from Trading Hut sales, including a residual amount of money from March and April, had been banked. **SP** was expecting a delivery of tomato growbags. She thanked **TW** and **SJ** for manning the Trading Hut over two bank holiday Mondays.

WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTION

TW reported that there were 34 people on the waiting list and that plot 60a had been re-let. With the permission of the member on plot 34, **SM** wanted to carry out a risk assessment on the shed in order to help secure it; **FL** and **SM** would liaise with the member.

NAWG MATTERS

There had been no progress on the plan to devolve the management of parks and allotments to private trusts.

BEE GROUP/BEE GARDEN/BUTTERFLY GARDEN

KG and **SB** had dismantled two of the old wooden tubs in the bee garden. **FL** would bear the cost of the plants in the butterfly garden.

REPORT FROM SHOW GROUP

FL had joined the Show Group. A choir would sing at the show by the butterfly garden. Richard Littlewood had set up *uTube* access for members. **SM** would attend to the show noticeboards. *Cowell's Garden Centre, Halls of Heddon* and *Wyevale Garden Centre* would be approached for prizes. Pat Francis had asked **SP** to contact the birdseed supplier for birdseed and compost prizes. The Nunsmoor Centre had been booked for the next three meetings of the show group.

MOORSIDE HEALTH AND SAFETY

The points on the action list following the risk assessment prepared by **SM** and **FL** had been acted on. The spikes on the fence had been hammered down and **SP** would notify members via the website to repair dangerous fences and to trim hedges bordering access paths. **SP** would contact the Allotments Officer about replacing the noticeboard by the east gate. The Trading Hut and Plant Scheme would need to report the result of their risk assessment and the next risk assessment on the site would take

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place during the week before the show in September. **SM** gave **SP** the COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) file, to be kept in the Trading Hut.

2017 PLANT SCHEME

SJ reported that the Plant Scheme had begun trading on 22 April and sales were well under way. There were no H & S issues arising as a result of the risk assessment that the scheme had undertaken.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ Officers of the association receive a free plot; this needs to be confirmed by the Committee. There were no objections at the meeting to the officers receiving a free plot.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 6 June 2017 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre. There will be a plot inspection at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.

KG

2 June 2017