

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2018 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Tony Whittle.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS FOR 2018

SP was elected and agreed to continue as Chairperson, **KG** as Secretary, **NF** as Treasurer, **SP** as Trading Hut Manager and **TW** as Lettings Officer. **SP** welcomed Ringo Gebbie to the Committee.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 2 January had been distributed to Committee members. **TW**, **SP** and **FL** had identified the pruning jobs which the association would be able to manage; as a result, the tree surgeon's original quote of £2,620 had come down to £1,750 and Moorside's contribution would be £150. It was hoped that the work would be carried out in February.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had received notification from the Allotments Officer that the site rental for 2018/19 would be £4,993.35 which includes a £306 charge for Public Liability Insurance.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NF was not present at the meeting but had indicated that she was happy to continue as Treasurer, overseeing and conducting the main allotment site budget and accounts. She would be supported in her role with the help of **SJ** and **SP** overseeing the plant scheme and shop income and expenditure. There was little to report on the financial front except that rents were continuing to come in.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

SP reported that sales were beginning to improve. The Trading Hut had reverted to normal opening hours i.e. 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 p.m. each Saturday and Sunday. It was not yet clear whether there were any new volunteers for the Trading Hut rota... and then **RG** volunteered to become one!

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

SM reported that he would refresh notices on the safety noticeboard when the weather improved. Eddie Gilchrist had replaced the beds on plot 110; a wheel would be put on the gate leading to it and the toilet block. The safety audit for the Trading Hut and Plant Scheme would take place in March; the original safety report and a list of the volunteers with their induction and training records, record of risk assessments would be needed as proof that Moorside is carrying out its H & S obligations.

WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTIONS

TW was not present at the meeting but **SP** reported that there were 36 people on the waiting list and that plot 100 had been re-let.

NAWG MATTERS

NAWG had not met for a while since their AGM and the next meeting was scheduled for March. The Allotments Officer had spoken to the Freeman who had not made a decision about the running of Freeman sites when the management of allotment sites was devolved to a Trust. The fate of allotment sites under Trust management would be discussed at a meeting in the Collingwood Suite at the Civic Centre on 24 February 2018.

2018 PLANT SCHEME

SJ had ordered compost and would be ordering more seeds. Stan Tortoise and George Kell had started sowing seeds. Angela Gebbie had volunteered to help with the Plant Scheme.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ **SP** had contacted the Council to enquire when the corner outside the site would be cleared. An electricity supply is needed to install CCTV on the site and there was a possibility that Northumbrian Water would be willing to co-operate in this matter.
- ◆ There were a few amendments to the minutes of the 2018 AGM which had been circulated to Committee members; **KG** to action.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 6 March 2018 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre.

The meeting closed at 6.30 p.m.

KG

1 March 2018