

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1 MAY 2018 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

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

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Ringo Gebbie.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 3 April had been distributed to Committee members. The lock on the gate at the bottom west lane had been fixed and a spring wheel had been fitted to the gate leading to the toilet block. There had been no more break-ins since the last committee meeting.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NF reported that all members had now paid their rents and that the site rental had been paid to the Council. **NF** had consulted the Allotments Officer about the new data protection legislation and its possible impact on Moorside. Information about the membership is not widely shared with other organisations and is sent only to bodies that need it (e.g. the National Allotment Society); members are only sent important information so do not need to be asked if they want to opt out of being contacted by the association. The tenancy agreement would be amended with regard to data privacy.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

SP reported that sales were steady and that the takings for March amounted to £815.

HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

All risk assessments had been completed and the safety audit had been done. **SM** and **FL** had almost finished clearing plot 75 and it would shortly be ready for letting; they had filled a second skip and **SP** would contact the Allotments Officer about the possibility of a third free skip. Another concessionary bonfire would be needed to burn the timber on the plots but it would be some time before the remaining plots were cleared.

WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTIONS

TW reported that there were 34 people on the waiting list. There was a small degree of concern about three plots after the site inspection and these would be monitored on a monthly basis. Plot 26 had been re-let; plot 25 had been vacated and it would be offered to an experienced gardener on the alternative waiting list. Bamboo planted on plot 26 had invaded three adjoining gardens; **SP** would contact the ploholders in the first instance to discuss its removal. Eddie Gilchrist would improve access to the tap on plot 83 and also re-route the piping to provide a tap on the opposite side of the path. The erection of a lean-to shed on plot 107b needed approval. The tenants on plot 80a wanted to install a barbecue; there were no objections to this provided that the barbecue was not cemented into position in any way.

PARKING OUTSIDE MOORSIDE

At present there are no restrictions on parking outside the site and often there is very limited parking for members. **SP** would contact the Highways Department about what would be the best approach to restrict parking on Fenham Hall Drive outside Moorside.

MOORSIDE BEE GROUP

At present, there is an advice sheet on keeping bees originally collated by **SJ** and Peter Whewell. There was general agreement that there should be formal guidelines for individuals wanting to keep bees; **SJ** and **TW**, in consultation with current beekeepers at Moorside, would action this.

NAWG MATTERS

The Allotments Officer had forwarded information about a Community Support project; a team of young people aged 16-17 volunteer their support as part of doing their National Citizen Service.

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The committee would consider whether there were any suitable projects at Moorside which the group could help with; (painting the shed on plot 86 and tidying the front of the plot were two suggestions).

2018 PLANT SCHEME

Plant sales began on 21 April and the scheme had already made £100. Seed sowing, although delayed on account of the cold weather, continues. Paving slabs, landscaping fabric and aggregate would be used to tidy up plot 86.

2018 MOORSIDE ANNUAL SHOW

There was no new information regarding the show.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ **FL** suggested that the City Council should be creating more allotment sites and that the Freemen should be encouraged to allocate more space for allotments in the city.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 5 June 2018 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre. There will be a site inspection at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 6.35 p.m.

KG

3 June 2018