

Park Ward Allotments, Minutes of the Committee.

Meeting held: Sunday 29th March 2015

Present: Keith (Chair), Tess (Secretary), Nina, Des, Zephyrine, Gerry.

1. Apologies: Ricky, Nick
2. Matters arising. It was reported that rat poison had been bought, and Robbie is in charge of it. (This is no longer the case: Keith now has the rat poison) A mower has been bought for Arnie. Zephyrine asked that the waiting list be updated: Tess to do this. The big greenhouse was discussed (see minutes of AGM for decisions).
3. For Treasurer's report see minutes of AGM following.
4. Date of next meeting: Saturday 30th May at 10.30.

Minutes of AGM, Sunday March 2015.

Present, as above, plus 8 plot-holders.

1. Apologies as above, plus Helen and Brian.
2. Matters arising. The big greenhouse was discussed. The present tenant is moving away. Ray suggested we pay Albert and Arnie to repair it, and then use it as a communal space. Zephyrine reported that quite a lot of repairs had been done by the tenant who is leaving. Des wondered if we could split it into plots. Bob said it was too big a job for Arnie and Albert, and we'd need to get professionals in. Vince suggested repairing it with polypropylene. Zephyrine proposed that we advertise it and see if anyone wants to take it on (at half plot rent, but the tenants to be responsible for maintenance). A final decision to be made at the May Committee meeting. Robbie proposed that rents should be due by the end of May, with the discount. Des and Vince suggested end of July as the final deadline for non-discounted rents. The changes were agreed. It was decided that Keith would order the skip for next Wednesday. Ray reported on a break-in that had just been discovered. He emphasized that plot holders must themselves report break-ins to the police.
3. Election of Officers. All existing officers were confirmed in their posts.
4. Chair's report. Keith said that all was going well.
5. Secretary's report: The Committee met 6 times last year: minutes from all these meetings are available on request. Some of the main issues we discussed were: the big greenhouse - a tenant was found for this, but she is now giving it up; the proposed bike path through the allotments from the new housing estate at the top: we have successfully blocked this idea so far, but need to remain vigilant; noticeboards and skips - the noticeboards are now repaired, and last year we had the skip come twice; free manure - this is now appearing regularly by the top gate - thanks to Des Meyers for arranging this; a Facebook page, which is now running, organized by Zephyrine. Other news: we now have three new committee members, Nick, Nina and Des. There are 4 new tenants since this time last year, and there are 12 people on the waiting list.
6. Treasurer's report, as dictated by phone from hospital by Ricky, read by Tess: Carried Forward: £2668.2, plus rent: £1570.66 = £4238.68.
Expenditure: room hire: £15, 2 skips: £358.8, water rates: £280.19
Shed and greenhouse: £50, Petrol: £30, rat poison: £13, insurance: £73.90
Surplus: £3418.51.
7. AOB: Nina suggested we should put up proper fencing round the site, but Keith said it could still be climbed. There was a discussion of barbed wire. Robbie proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee. This was carried.

