

**ALSAGER GARDENS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 07 April 2020  
2nd 'ZOOM' ONLINE MEETING, DUE TO COVID19 (CORONAVIRUS)**

**PRESENT**

Members: Adrian Ford (Chair), Pauline Hubbard (Secretary/Vice Chair), Judith Ford, Hilary Robinson, Mike Hubbard, Lynne McCabe

- 1 **APOLOGIES** Mike Smith, John Nixon, Derek Hough, John Nixon, David Pitt, David Spall
- 2 **MINUTES OF MEETING** held on 24 March 2020 approved  
Note Hilary Robinson was present at the meeting.
- 3 **MATTERS ARISING** None
- 4 **EMERGENCY ISSUES**

A plot holder has challenged the decision to keep Alsager allotments open. It was confirmed that we are complying fully with Government and NAS guidelines.

Bulletins 1,2,3 were sent out to members (see last meeting). A further bulletin to be sent out re current guidelines from NAS on hygiene for gates/locks and social distancing and advice from NAS (eg can I drive to my allotment under the 'exercise' rule). Also, to contain reference to outstanding subs. **PH**

A carer contacted the Association re a past member, HC who has requested to rejoin the Association. Bulletins are being sent to him, to keep in touch.

It was agreed that we issue a short Summer Newsletter in order to keep contact with our members, AF to approach David Spall with possibility of producing a double sided (A4 page) newsletter on email for those who use email with the idea of keeping in touch with members and confirm contact numbers. AF to talk with DS about the possibility of publication in May. Suggested we include a prompt for members to provide email details.

**AF PH DS**

The Annual Show cannot be planned at present as we have no date for the lifting of the Lockdown. To be kept under review.

**5 BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

**PH** noted that as David Pitt our Treasurer is in total lockdown and we have no access to digital banking, we have no ability to trade. All transactions up to 1 April 2020 are banked. We are unable to handle cash during this period of crisis. Consideration has been given to other means of payment - eg PayPal, but this gives a 3-5% overhead. Online banking is available but is not set up. It was noted that advice from NAS recommends online payments. In this respect our system needs updating to comply and that we should look at this asap well normality is returned.

**PLOT RENTALS LATE PAYMENTS**

It was confirmed that late payers of subs will be charged a £5 fee.

In view of David Pitt's resignation, a **new Treasurer needs to be sought.**

## **6 GENERAL ISSUES**

It was agreed to agenda for the next meeting the proposal to change the 'allotment year' from current 1 January to 31 December to 1 October - 30 September. This would help deal with the issue of tenants giving notice on 31 December or 31 March when invoices are due for payment and the current problem of plots being vacated in the Spring with a subsequent loss of 3 months rental. Also, we could insist that invoices and subs were paid during the month of October, when the trading hut is open, rather than for the 3-month period Jan to March each year. We may have to consider annual subs £4 – being applied to the same period. PH will check with Constitution and confirm.

**PH**

D Pitt has stated it is his intention to retire as AGA Treasurer at the end of this year so a new Treasurer is required. Nominations sought. **AF**

## **7. SITE MANAGERS' REPORTS**

### **Adrian Ford – Lawton Road**

1 X 1/4 plot 1 x raised bed 1 x 1/2 plot awaiting an agreed tenancy

### **Mike Hubbard- Cedar Ave**

4 raised beds available, 2 x 1/4 plots vacant  
1 x plot vacated with carpets still not removed

**John Nixon Talke Rd** - All plots taken, 1 on waiting list

**Mike Smith – Coronation Ave** 3 x 1/4 plots 1 x Raised

## **8. AOB**

Pollinating seeds can be picked up at Anthony Cook's house on Crewe Rd.  
There is an Honesty Box in the porch. See Facebook link. PH to include in next bulletin

Hilary has a quantity of potatoes that she will not be able to promote "swap/share". It was suggested that she could use these on untenanted plots or raised beds and that some of the produce could go to the food bank.

HS to send details of potatoes available and determine if any plots could be used.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT ZOOM MEETING**

21 April 2020 at 8pm (ZOOM)

## **10. CLOSE OF MEETING 8.33pm**

Note future Meeting 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020 8pm