

# ALSAGER GARDENS ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON ZOOM DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS ON TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2020

### PRESENT

Committee

Derek Hough (President) - Adrian Ford (Chairman)

Pauline Hubbard (Vice Chair and Secretary), David Spall (Trading Secretary) ,

Judith Ford, Mike Hubbard Lynne McCabe

Members: Sean McCabe, Greg Pickard, Neil Challinor, Helen Challinor, Jane Pender

Maria Hutton (ipad),

### 1 CHAIRMAN - OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to this special AGM 2021 conducted on Zoom, complying with National Covid Rules.

### 2 APOLOGIES

David Pitt, John Nixon, Mike Smith

3 **MINUTES** of meeting held on 11 February 2020 were proposed by Pauline Hubbard and seconded by Derek Hough and agreed as a true record.

4 **MATTER ARISING** None

### 5 TREASURER'S REPORT - David Pitt

Copies of the Treasurer's Report were distributed to all members prior to the meeting with accompanying notes. Any further questions may be directed to David Pitt by email or telephone.

The Association is in gross profit of 29% (30% last year) and Vice Chair Pauline Hubbard commented on this incredible achievement during a very difficult year due to Covid 19 and the severe restrictions we traded under. An excellent socially distanced Plant Sale was enjoyed and thanks to Mike Hubbard for raising £300 from sale of planks. Although no money was raised from the cancellation of the Annual Garden Show, the Trading Hut profited from supplying garden needs when shop closures and Covid restrictions prevented buying elsewhere.

The Committee and Members expressed their thanks to David Pitt for 38 years of excellent service as Treasurer to the Society. A token of thanks to David will be discussed at the next meeting.

### 6 TRADING SECRETARY'S REPORT

David Spall thanked all members for support during this difficult year. Kings Seeds hope to be back on track very soon. Spare

Potatoes now on sale in the Hut. Apologies offered for price rises but these are inevitable due to the current circumstances.

David thanked Adrian and Judith Ford for their help in keeping the

Hut open. At the first opening of the hut last week magnificent takings of over £1100 were recorded (including some overdue rents).

We were reminded to grow extra plants as usual to provide for the Annual Plant Sale.

### 7 SECRETARY'S REPORT

This was circulated to all members prior to this evening. To sum up, we have survived a very difficult year, with a good socially distanced Plant Sale Day and a newly introduced Allotment Award. Site Managers have worked extremely hard to keep everything going under Covid Restrictions. We have received numerous requests for allotment sites, many of which from out-of-area people, confirming the attraction of Allotmenting during difficult conditions. Currently only 2 plots in total available across all sites (1 x 1/2 and 1 x 1/4)

Tree work and a new pathway at Coronation Avenue are looking very good.

The dangerous trees at Cedar Avenue have now been removed or pollarded and our thanks go to Simon Wooten, Facilities Manager at the Council.

We hope to be able to hold an Annual Garden Show this year and thanks to our Town Council for awarding us the grant for room hire year on year.

The 'open space' adjoining Cedar Avenue site has seen some progress in that the Town Council are seeking to secure funds from Cheshire East. A programme of work is planned which should benefit the wider community. Neil Challinor asked if we were likely to see a resolution this year and Pauline Hubbard replied that we would hopefully see results within 12 months depending on responses from Cheshire East Council to the Town Council.

## **8 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

This was circulated to all members prior to tonight's meeting. We have 269 paid up members and 170 plot holders.

## **9 PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS**

This has been circulated to all members. Our President emphasised that Allotments have been good for us all during Lockdown, providing fresh air and exercise and there have been some positives during the past year, providing us with more time to look after our plots and he thanked all the Officers for their hard work in maintaining facilities.

## **10 ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

David Pitt stands down this year as Treasurer, Adrian Ford was nominated for Treasurer. No nomination for Show Secretary or Chairman.

Adrian Ford agreed to stay on as Chairman. The President remains as Derek Hough as this is not required to be reelected.

The following were all nominated en-bloc:

Chairman	Adrian Ford
Vice Chair	Pauline Hubbard
Treasurer	Adrian Ford
Trading Secretary	David Spall
Secretary	Pauline Hubbard
Membership Secretary	Hilary Robinson

For information, not for election:

Lynne McCabe	General Officer
Judith Ford	General Officer
Lesley Quartermaine	General Officer
John Nixon	Site Manager, Talke Rd
Michael Smith	Site Manager, Coronation Ave
Mike Hubbard	Site Manager, Cedar Ave
Adrian Ford	Site Manager, Lawton Rd
Town Council Rep	Cllr Jane Smith

## **11 CLOSE OF MEETING**

Adrian Ford closed the meeting by thanking everyone concerned for keeping the Association running smoothly during these very difficult times - especially embracing technology in respect of banking, email for correspondence etc which has proved to be a terrific help.

The meeting closed a 20.35.