

**ALSAGER GARDENS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 FEBRUARY 2021
'ZOOM' ONLINE MEETING, DUE TO COVID19 (CORONAVIRUS)**

PRESENT

Members: Adrian Ford, Chairman, Pauline Hubbard, Secretary, Hilary Robinson, Derek Hough, Mike Hubbard, David Spall, Lynne McCabe

- 1 **APOLOGIES** Judith Ford, David Pitt, John Nixon, Mike Smith
- 2 **MINUTES OF MEETING** held on 19 January 2021 approved.
- 3 **MATTERS ARISING** – Zoom license now purchased. Error in recording DS (David Spall) as DP (David Pitt). Apologies from your Minutes Secretary.
- 4 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

I will not be able to give an accurate report as I only collected the books and accounts from the accountants yesterday and I have still to update income and expenditure from 01/02/21 plus January receipts where I have not received an email (of which there are many).

I can tell you that I have still to pay the auditor £114, the Town Council for the allotments rent £2707 and I am awaiting receipt of the invoice from K G Loach for hut supplies. **DP**

The accountant has sent the accounts and notes in Word form and these will be sent to you later today.

I assume it has been checked but are we sure we are legally allowed to open the hut during the current lockdown. (see Item 5). I wish to remain on the Hut Rota, but I do not wish to do hut duties whilst I am still shielding.

5 TRADING SECRETARY'S REPORT

DS reported ongoing problems with Kings seeds. They are still suffering major disruption due to staff and supply shortages. We have received some orders but not all. Potatoes to be delivered this Friday 19 February. DS will sort and stay at Trading Hut until 11am for people to collect their orders. Any not collected DS will attempt to deliver. **DS**

HUT OPENING ON SUNDAY 7 MARCH 2021

DP has questioned the legality of opening the Trading Hut during Covid Lockdown. PH has checked with NAS and believes we are able to open provided we are Covid-safe and meet the requirements of the risk assessment etc. To this end AF has reviewed and carried out the appropriate risk assessments.

In view of this and the belief that we come under Agricultural/Horticultural status, and a review of the advice from NAS, the hut can be opened on a limited and Covid-secure basis.

A PVC Screen is to be fitted on the counter and numbers allowed in the Trading Hut are strictly limited.

It was felt that payments in cash need to be considered. AF has put forward his nomination as a prospective new Treasurer from March AGM and will give this issue some thought. DS confirmed he wears gloves when handling cash.

The Secretary was opposed to reopening the Trading Hut so a vote was taken regarding re-opening in March, The majority vote was that we should re-open the Trading Hut on the first, 2nd and last week in March, 10 - 12 am for the first 2 Sundays and 10.30-11.30 am the last Sunday in March. All forms of payment to be accepted.

The continued opening of the Hut will be reviewed at the next committee meeting.
PH/AF

DS to track/order seeds and compost - preferring that customers continue to pre-order through Adrian Ford .
DS/AF

It was noted that the Hut keeps a record of any payments due.

6 SECRETARY'S REPORT

Coronation Avenue - Work has been carried out on the path and photographs confirm that a very good job has been done.

Greenhouse Requests:

1. Small greenhouse on Cedar Avenue plot 4A3, MH has checked location and neighboring plots. Request agreed.
2. Small greenhouse on Cedar Avenue plot 21, as above, request agreed.

PH intends to review all sites and compile an inventory of current buildings/greenhouses/polytunnels etc.
PH/SITE MANAGERS

Currently there is only one over-sized polytunnel at rear of Cedar Avenue site.

AGM 9/3/2021

PH stressed the need for organisation and structure due to AGM being conducted on Zoom for the first time. We can direct people to the AGM information on the website - information regarding this to go out to members by 24/2/2021. Addresses from (people without email) requested from HR
HR to PH

Need to include in a reminder in the Bulletin for people to apply for Officers' positions.
PH

Reports needed from Chairman, President, Secretary, Treasurer, Trading Secretary

Reports to be sent to Secretary in WORD document Deadline 23 February
PH/DH/AF/DP/DS

DH suggested Secretary's Report to include vacancies on site. PH advised that we do not normally have site managers reports that an overall summary of the sites, achievements etc. is provided by the Secretary. **PH**

Items for Next BULLETIN prior to AGM

- 1 Petition regarding neonicotinoid spray re-introduction by Government.
- 2 AGM
- 3 Plant Sale in May - plant extra if possible, for sale
- 4 Trading Hut arrangements
- 5 Any outstanding monies for manure etc.
- 6 Nominations for all positions
- 7 Magazines in Hut
- 8 Light entertainment - Huw Richards, Gardener, on YouTube

7 SITE MANAGERS' REPORTS

Mike Hubbard, Cedar Ave - 1 full plot, waterlogged 1 vacant plot allocated.
Note that 2 x plot holders have given up plots in January upon request for payment.
It was agreed that a future meeting would look at ways to deter this.

John Nixon, Talke Rd - Dangerous Tree actioned. No vacancies.

Mike Smith, Coronation Ave – Work on path reported as above.

Adrian Ford, Lawton Rd - No vacant plots. Resident at rear of site wants to replace a fence, Simon Wootten, ATC, to liaise with her due to a tree in very close proximity. **AF/SW**

8. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - ZOOM MEETING ON 9 MARCH 2021 - 8.00pm**
See under Secretary's Report
9. **TRADING HUT - RE-OPENING** - see under Trading Secretary's Report
10. **NEXT BULLETIN** - PH to issue prior to AGM papers by this weekend. **PH**
11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING - 23 MARCH 2021, 8.00PM**
12. **CLOSE OF MEETING 21.15**