

**ALSAGER GARDENS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2020  
'ZOOM' ONLINE MEETING**

**PRESENT**

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

1. **APOLOGIES** Derek Hough

2. **MINUTES OF MEETING** held on 18 August 2020 approved

3. **MATTERS ARISING** - The Best Allotment Awards Ceremony, held outside the Civic Centre following social distancing rules, was a great success.

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Cash/Current a/c £5654 and Reserve a/c £4371 totaling £10025.  
Liabilities are K G Loach £128 and Site Managers honoraria £100.  
Trading to date £3824 (2019 £4079)  
Subs to date £784(196) – 2019 £864(216)  
Rents to date £5022(142+9) – 2019 £4713(142+6)

In view of present circumstances DP recommended that allotment rents remain un-changed as well as subs unchanged unless Hilary is aware of any increase in the NSALG subscription in which case we must increase in line with their increase. This was agreed.  
The site managers honoraria will be paid in the next 14 days.

A reminder for site managers to send the updated allotment schedules by 20/10 at latest **AF/MS/MH**

**5. TRADING SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Trading in the Hut last Sunday was successful again. David Spall reminds everyone to get their Kings seed orders in as soon as possible.

**DS HR**

**6. PROVISION OF MANURE**

MH advised we have a new source for Manure, from Church Lawton and guaranteed no chemicals have been used for at least 5 yrs. £40 per load. The manure has been sieved. It was agreed to go ahead with this. Payment to be made direct to the Treasurer via the Allotment Association bank account - details will be displayed on a notice to be displayed on site. Cash will be required to pay the farmer DS to organise cash/ Notice. MH to clear area at Cedar Avenue in readiness. **DS MH**

**7. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Failed Inspection Notices issued by Secretary

**26/05/20 - 7 x 28 day notices were issued, of which**

- 2 Tenancies were terminated
- 2 Tenants were given an extension of deadline
- All plots improved
- 1 x Tenant granted further extension due to illness during lockdown and requirement for further surgery. There has been no planting on this plot for more than 12 months. Plot to be reviewed early 2021.

**07/08/20 - 4 x 28 day notices were issued, of which**

- 1 x Tenancy self-terminated - All plots improved

**19/08/20 - 1 x 28 day notice issued, tenancy self-terminated**

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**Site Notices (details previously circulated)**

The Secretary recommended that some robust Notices be made - similar to the AGA Trading Hut sign, for each of the following:

- 'Lock the Gate' - at each site
- 'No Parking/Keep Clear of the Gate and Trading Hut' at Cedar Avenue - to be displayed on left-hand side of Trading Hut Door
- 'Fly Tipping' - at Cedar Avenue as people are depositing items of rubbish near to the gate.

It was agreed to go ahead with the purchases as per the drafts previously circulated **PH/MH**

**8. SITE MANAGERS' REPORTS**

**Mike Hubbard -Cedar Avenue** - visit received at Cedar Avenue from Simon, Town Council and Bruce, Cheshire East. Walked the back of the site to inspect trees and Himalayan Balsam. The Balsam is not a priority and can be dealt with by ourselves, **MH** to organise a working party to spray and remove.

Trees - some to be cut back but logs left behind, MH requested that these be stacked. Another meeting to take place with Simon, Bruce and the tree surgeon to discuss strategy for lopping. One plot in vicinity of lopping area on plot is vacant. Another needs assessing and a Health and Safety check to ensure no-one is around when work takes place. A fence panel may be removed. **MH**  
It was noted that the back of the allotment site to the railway line is very congested.

**John Nixon** – Talke Road

Allotment list provided to DP with a number of recent changes and 2 quarter plots available which will be offered to people on the waiting list.

**Mike Smith** – nothing to report

**Adrian Ford** - 2 x 1/2 plots available. A bonfire on site - (hedge clippings from adjoining property) - dealt with. An adjoining resident wants to erect a new boundary fence. AF to liaise with Simon, Town Council. **AF**

**9. ALLOTMENT RULES** - changes to the version to be implemented 01 January 2021 were discussed and agreed. PH to circulate draft. **PH**

**10. SECURING A NEW TREASURER**- AF to arrange a meeting between David Pitt, current Treasurer and prospective new Treasurer. **AF DP**

**11. OCTOBER BULLETIN** - to include a reminder about ordering Kings Seeds. Item re Manure and electronic payment bank details **PW/DS**  
Composting **HR**  
Potato varieties (? Winter newsletter) **HR**  
Subs /Rental of plots to remain the same - to include in January Bulletin **DS**

**13 NEXT ZOOM MEETING**  
3/11/2020 at 8.00pm

**14. MEETING CLOSED AT 8.00PM**