

**ALSAGER GARDENS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 DECEMBER 2020  
'ZOOM' ONLINE MEETING, DUE TO COVID19 (CORONAVIRUS)**

**PRESENT**

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

1 **APOLOGIES** Judith Ford

2 **MINUTES OF MEETING** held on 3 November 2020 approved.

3 **MATTERS ARISING** David Pitt to remain as Treasurer for the time being due to COVID 19.

No more has been heard regarding the health of Elsie Warrilow.

4 **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Cash/Current a/c £4858 Reserve a/c £4372 Total £9230.

- There are no liabilities, although the following costs are expected shortly. Insurance £500, Tree Surgeon-Talke Rd. £160 and skip hire at Lawton Rd. £180 **Total £840.**
- There have been no further seed sales since the last meeting
- Received 1 quarter plots rent and 1 membership Sub.
- Trading to 2/12 is £4774 (last yr. £4922).

DP reported that bank statements indicated no less than 18 transactions for which he has not received e-mails. It is assumed they are all for manure.

DP will not have draft accounts available for the meeting on 19/01/21 and may not be able to provide a report for this date. If any officers have any expenses to claim please provide them to DP before 31/12. Any claims after this date will not be dealt with until the accounts are completed.

**ALL TO NOTE**

***David has completed the invoices so if there are any further changes these will need to be raised with David separately for an invoice to be sent out.***

5 **TRADING SECRETARY'S REPORT**

**DS** disappointed that seeds did not arrive as expected in October, this is due to unprecedented demand, suppliers struggling to keep up despite 6 day/12 hour working shifts. Our order has been promised for next week. **DS** will then be able to collect approx. £800/£900 payments from seed orders. Payments can be made by bank transfer, cheque, or cash. **DS** DS has checked the Hut and all secure and in order.

DS will ask David Pitt who has paid for manure

**DS**

## 6. SECRETARY'S REPORT

**Areas of expenditure agreed since last meeting:** Trading Hut now ready for March opening. Covid-Safety Screens are now needed and it was agreed unanimously to purchase a suitable screen at a cost of £130. PH

**Out of area Allotment requests:** our devolved management agreement with the Town Council states: All residents of Alsager Town are eligible to rent an allotment plot. Residents of neighboring areas MAY BE considered by the AGA for an allotment plot if there are sufficient vacancies.

Our Allotments in Alsager are funded by Alsager Town Council via our rates. We are currently inundated with requests for plots from locals so currently it is not possible to consider out of area applications. The housing increase was also noted. Covid has led to increased interest in allotments this year.

**MH** commented that there was sometimes a lack of commitment from out of area tenants possibly due to travelling distance required to attend their plots. It was agreed that non Alsager residents will not be considered at this point. To be reviewed later in the year.

### **Coronation Ave Path**

PH reported that Alsager Town Council has approved £5,500 funding for a path at Coronation Avenue and a concrete area next to the gate for manure deliveries etc. The concrete area will be approx. 10ft x 10 ft and then lead onto a paved 4 feet wide path that will go down to the toilet building. At the toilet building the total area will be paved to a point just past the water standpipe. Garden Solutions will be undertaking the work and will be looking to start at the end of January 2021. Simon Wootton, the Facilities Manager at Alsager Town council, will be organising a pre-start meeting on site with Mike Smith (Site Manager) and the contractor nearer the time.

This is excellent news, not only does it add benefit for all Coronation Avenue allotment holders by giving improved access for deliveries such as manure/chippings etc., importantly it will complete the work we require for our "Accessibility Project" in making the toilet and water accessible to the new raised bed.

### **Grant Award for Annual Show**

PH reported that At the Alsager Town Council Finance Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020 the following was recommended as a Grant, year on year for inclusion in the 2021-22 budget

*That, a grant of one free room hire of Alsager Civic for the Alsager Gardens Association Garden Show be approved in the 2021-22 budget and that **be included in the budget year on year without the requirement for a grant application.***

This represents a grant figure of around £600 per annum for the AGA.

The budget will go forward to the Full Council meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January where this will receive approval (or not). Again, excellent news if this goes through.

## **CURRENT COVID TIERING**

Our site falls within Tier 2 Covid Rating. PH to advise that people who fall within Tier 3 must act in accordance with any applied restrictions. **PH**

## **7 SITE MANAGERS' REPORTS**

**Mike Hubbard, Cedar Ave** - 56 Scaffolding Plants at a cost of £5 each have been sold with a possibility of obtaining more.

2 x 1/4 Plots available. 1 x 1/2 plot requested by current tenant.

Ground at Cedar Avenue currently very wet following recent weather conditions.

Following the recent manure delivery, the Farmer gave us one load free of charge. Thanks to the farmer.

**John Nixon, Talke Rd** - 1 x 1/4 plot available. New tenants on site are doing well. Much approval for recent manure drops.

**Mike Smith, Coronation Ave** - No report but assume no vacancies.

**Adrian Ford, Lawton Rd** - All plots full. Almost 3/4 of manure now gone. A new plothead has removed a large overhanging branch which was a safety issue. Very wet on site, car park is a quagmire.

## **8. WINTER NEWSLETTER**

**DS** hopes to be able to have seeds sorted by next weekend, provided they are received from the wholesaler. It is hoped to have the Winter Newsletter printed by Monday or Tuesday of next week. **Paper and Ink** has been ordered **DS**

- **New Allotment Rules** to be included with the Newsletter. **DS**
- **Invoices** to be included with the Newsletter **DS/PH**
- **225 copies** to be printed **DS**
- **Deliveries/ All Walk Lists** to be organised within next 2 weeks **PH**

## **9. AGM 2021 Change to proposed date**

The Annual General Meeting is now scheduled for Tuesday 9 March 2021. **ALL OFFICERS**

## **10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 19 January 2021 8.00pm

## **12 Meeting closed at 8.35 pm.**