

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2011 AT 5.30 P.M. AT THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE, FENHAM

PRESENT: Peter Whewell, Krys Gaffney, Nicola Loose, Sue Brophy, Sue Johnson, Sue Pownall and Tony Whittle.

There were no **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 8 March 2011 had been distributed to Committee members. The DVD for the *Wildplaces Project* was being made and **PW** would be sent a copy when it was ready. **NL** had completed and returned the documentation for Public Liability Insurance to the Allotments Officer. On 1 January 2012, the Council would be arranging for a blanket insurance to cover allotment sites citywide; this would add approximately £2 to the rent payable by Moorside members. **NL** was unsure whether optional add-ons, such as Employer Liability Insurance, would be feasible with this scheme. The Allotments Officer and Tree Officer had visited plots 91 and 92 whilst **PW** was on holiday. Three Moorside calendars remained unsold; **KG** had one to send to *Gardeners' World*.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had received three more applications for an allotment. Another skip would be ordered.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Only 2 rents were outstanding which **NL** was chasing. The key count was incomplete since not all members had completed a form. **NL** would add ten more keys to the count and keep a separate key deposit account. **SP** had found a key in a drawer in the Trading Hut.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

Several leaks appeared in the toilet block when the water had been turned on; there was some damage to the piping in the men's toilet and only cold running water was available. A plumber had been paid £25 to carry out repairs. The lawn mower was now in working order. Four tons of soil improver had been sold; **SP** would order another three tons. The scaffolding planks were selling well; **SP** had ordered additional planks as well as more Growbags and Chempak. The topsoil was too wet to be supplied in bags so two tons of loose topsoil would be ordered. A new rota for the Trading Hut volunteers had been drawn up. The price of manure had been raised to £1 per barrowload.

BEE GROUP

There would be a meeting of the bee group towards the end of April. **SJ** was attending a course and David Rochester would be starting his shortly. Hamid Haykal's hives were now in a safe location. **PW** had completed and returned his report for the bee grant and was awaiting the design of the second bee interpretation board by the City Ecology Officer. When this is received the boards can be constructed.

NAWG MATTERS

Karen Brown from Nunsmoor Allotments had attended a NAWG meeting to discuss the specific management problems there. Unfortunately the NAWG budget does not cover Nunsmoor as it is a Freeman Intake site. **PW** and **SP** have offered to attend a Nunsmoor committee meeting to describe management arrangements at Moorside. As members of NAWG, Moorside committee members acting as Area Representatives would be insured when visiting plots which were not their own.

MOORSIDE 2011 SHOW

There was no progress as yet on obtaining extra tables for the show. A grant of £200 had been received from Muckle LLP for printing the Show booklet. The Show booklet was progressing well and would, provisionally, be ready at the end of May. Details of the show schedule published on the

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

website had not raised any objections. **SJ** had received a £50 voucher from Lawson's Timber and D.T. Brown had donated seeds. The Top Tray and Top Vase awards had been ordered from *T & M*.

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

PLOTS

It was uncertain when the trees on plots 91 and 92 would be felled; the plotolder had also asked for the Council to reduce the hedge between plot 90b and 91 to one metre. Plot 90b had been let. Six people had been removed from the waiting list as they had not responded to **PW**'s correspondence; he had emailed them in the first instance and had then written to them with a SAE which had not been returned. The waiting list was now 34.

TASK GROUPS

A Bee Garden meeting on 2 April had been poorly attended. There was room for three beds and paths for wheelchair access in the Disabled Garden which would be sited next to the toilet block; the beds could be used by existing members or new members. The quarter-plot on 59a could be the location for a polytunnel similar to the one at Littlemoor. The Green Energy group would meet on 9 April at 10.30 a.m. to discuss setting up photovoltaic cells, followed by a meeting of the East Hedge group at 11.30 a.m. to trim the hedging plants. **PW** would email the Floral Display group which would meet on 16 April at 10.00 a.m. A meeting would need to be arranged for the Wildlife group. A request would be made to the Council for a supply of spent compost, chippings and plants. Approximately 25 members had offered to supply produce for the Trading Hut; **PW** would set up a chart for people to complete with the produce they would supply and when they would supply it.

THE WINGROVE GARDEN FESTIVAL

Emma Hughes would be organising the Moorside seedling swap as part of the Wingrove Garden Festival on Sunday 15 May at the Nunsmoor Centre. Request to members for seedlings that could be sold at the stall on the 15th May would be made.

KEYS FOR THE TOP GATE

TW, **PW** and the Trading Hut hold keys for the top gate and for the gate leading onto the Moor. A member who lives on Wingrove Road had been given a key for the Moor gate to allow him to walk his dog but it was agreed that no more keys would be handed out for this gate.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ A passerby had offered a greenhouse to the Association and **SB** had told him to contact the Trading Hut.

NEXT INSPECTION DATE

The next site inspection will be on Saturday 7 May at 9.30 a.m.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 10 May 2011 at 5.30 p.m. in the Community Hut.

The meeting closed at 6.50 p.m.