

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8 MARCH 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 1 February 2011 had been distributed to Committee members. **PW** had been interviewed by Trai Anfield on DVD for the Wildplaces Project. There were no other matters arising from the minutes.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had received a Public Liability Insurance form from the Allotments Officer which **NL** would complete and return.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There were 15 rents outstanding which **NL** would chase. The key count up to now revealed that deposits amounted to almost £1,000 and since there was £2,500 in the key deposit account some of the surplus could potentially be used by the Association.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

SP reported that the scaffolding planks and seed potatoes had sold out; the manure on the central path was selling quickly. The delivery of the soil improver would be delayed until after Seedy Sunday.

MEETING WITH MEMBER FROM PLOT 91/92

The member from plots 91/92 joined the meeting at 6 p.m. to discuss the levels of cultivation and trees on his plots. The member did not feel that the eucalyptus tree cast much shade and the self-seeded sycamore was growing on a rubbish heap of bricks and bottles which had been there for nearly fourteen years; cutting down the trees would damage established bulbs growing around them. He did not agree that his plots were only 30% cultivated; there were many fruit trees and he had been trying to establish a dogwood hedge. He did intend to keep his two plots and had a paddock in his new home which could be planted with any shrubs removed from the allotment. The Committee expected gradual improvement in cultivation levels on the plots and would monitor progress on the plots over the coming growing season. In view of the fact that both eucalyptus and sycamore were as yet only half grown, the Committee decided that both trees would be felled.

BEE GROUP

SJ was attending a course at Kirkley Hall. David Rochester had confirmed that he wanted to keep bees and had arranged a training course and Hamid Haykal had moved his second hive from plot 97 to plot 85.

NAWG MATTERS

The new tenancy agreement describes stringent cultivation standards of 75% cultivation for allotment plots. The council would be conducting an inspection to monitor cultivation standards at some future point.

MOORSIDE 2011 SHOW

SJ had been unable to secure the £200 funding from Thompson and Morgan needed for printing the Show booklet; **NL** would approach her firm for possible funding. **SJ** had already obtained vouchers worth £107 and had been promised other donations. A £13 fee for the Top Tray award from *T & M* yielded worthwhile cash prizes and it was agreed that deals offered to groups and individual gardeners by various seed companies should be investigated for 2012.

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PLOTS

Plot 90 would soon be vacant and would be re-let as two half-plots.

TASK GROUPS

A grant was needed to build raised beds on the plot next to the toilet block, for use by disabled members. Individual Committee members were assigned to direct the various task groups.

THE GREENING OF WINGROVE

This project is designed to bring green ideas into the local area. **SB** had been in contact with the group. Moorside was potentially interested in being included in the project and had been invited to set up a stall at the Nunsmoor Garden Festival on Sunday the 15th May.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ The cherry tree between plots 4 and 5 would have to be inspected by the Tree Officer.
- ◆ It was unclear whether the management committee from Nunsmoor Allotments would be invited to attend a meeting with NAWG.
- ◆ Seven Moorside calendars remained unsold.
- ◆ Cowell's Garden Centre was selling polytunnels for £119.
- ◆ Old chairs (for outdoor use) from Robert Stewart Memorial Hall were available; these would be put on the Free table.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 5 April 2011 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre.

The meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.