

MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 5 APRIL 2016 AT 5.30 P.M. IN THE NUNSMOOR CENTRE

PRESENT: Sue Pownall (in the Chair), Krys Gaffney, Sue Brophy, Nick Coster, Nicola Francis, Sue Johnson, Frank Lightfoot, Steve McDonnell and Tony Whittle.

There were no **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING held on 1 March 2016 had been distributed to Committee members. **SP** had met with representatives of the Comfrey Project; their members were having problems gaining entry to the site and instead of a complex 'padlock-through-padlock' system it was suggested that they buy extra keys for use with the existing lock; **TW** would arrange this. Trees on the site had been pruned. The members on plot 58 had applied to erect a 20 ft x 8 ft polytunnel on their plot; they had appealed against the committee's decision that they could not continue without modification to their structure; however, the Allotments Officer had visited Moorside and was insistent that the polytunnel should not exceed 10 ft x 8 ft.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

KG had nothing to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

NF reported she had renewed the NSALG membership. Three or four rents were still outstanding and **NF** had chased the members concerned. Members are given until the end of March to pay their rents otherwise it is assumed that they no longer wish to continue; **NF** would phone those whose rents were outstanding, otherwise she would write to them. The member on plot 30 had asked for a reduction in her rent; she felt that her garden was smaller than a half plot, was shaded by a birch tree at one end and infested with tree roots at the other. Whilst it was agreed that the plot was smaller than many, it was felt that the shade cast by the birch tree was minimal and that the problem of the tree roots could be overcome with cultivation. **SP** would contact her to let her know that her rent would not be reduced.

TRADING HUT MANAGER'S REPORT

SP reported that sales were good and that one or two more volunteers for the Trading Hut had come forward. Deliveries of manure and soil conditioner were awaited.

WAITING LIST, LETTINGS AND INSPECTION

There were 29 people on the waiting list. **TW** had re-let plots 33 and 107b; plot 32 was waiting to be let. It was agreed that Harry and Ethnie Carter should be made honorary members; **SP** would write to them. The site inspection had assessed the state of plots and no real problems had been apparent. An application had been received to erect a 10 ft x 8 ft greenhouse on plot 99, to be sited at the back of the plot next to two existing sheds.

GUIDANCE ON MOORSIDE ALLOTMENTS STRUCTURES

The Allotments Officer had recommended that ideally there should be one shed and one greenhouse per plot and that no more polytunnels should be erected. After discussion, it was agreed that Moorside should adopt this policy; historical structures that exceeded this would be allowed to remain but in future only one shed and one greenhouse, sited at the back of the plot would be permitted and that no new polytunnels would be allowed. The application for plot 99 was approved.

BEE GROUP

There was nothing to report.

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NAWG MATTERS

SP had nothing to report.

PLANT SCHEME 2016

The plant scheme had officially opened at the weekend. All sales would be conducted from plot 86 and there would be a notice at the Trading Hut listing the produce available.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ **TW** reported that the Show Committee had not met in March. Future meetings would be held on Wednesdays before the Moorside Committee meeting. Raffle prizes were needed.
- ◆ A bag of litter had been dumped outside the site; it contained a bill identifying the owner and **SP** had written to the Chief Environmental Health Officer about it; hurrah!

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Committee meeting will be on Tuesday 3 May 2016 at 5.30 p.m. in the Nunsmoor Centre. There will be a site inspection at 2.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 6.45 p.m.

KG

1 May 2016