

EALING DEAN ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING. TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> of JUNE 19.30

PRESENT: Simon Coleman, Jon Wilkins, Christina Fox, Mardien Drew, Hilary Wright.

Apologies from Crispin Harris and Kim Tompsett.

SECTION A

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes were accepted and there was nothing to note.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – JUNE

Inspected plot 244 and 157B with Christine – sent non cultivation email and letter.

Rupert , plot 223b -

Has planted potatoes given to him. Christina recommended non-cultivation letter asking him to strim, level the plot and start growing something.

Plot inspections-

Send congratulation letters to well cultivated plots on next inspection to encourage those who are looking after their plots really well.

No work done so termination letters sent.

Plots rented out: 244A 244B	Plots available: 157B 168A
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**WILLOW TREES**

Contacted Bertrand the tree surgeon to have a look at our willow trees that have been shedding branches.

He said they were a type of willow well know for shedding limbs – and that it was nicknamed the widow maker! Just our luck to inherit this variety.

He will get back to me with a quote for coppicing all four willows. This should be a cost borne by Pathways and not out of our budget.

## **WASTE COLLECTION**

Received paperwork from waste collection service

## **LOVEDAY ROAD STREET PARTY**

Attended Loveday Rd street party with Christine and Mardien – we talked to vicar of St John's Church and handed out flyers about the Radbourne Walk to residents.

## **HOSEPIPE BAN**

Written letter to all ploholders about hosepipe ban. We need to get posters for each standpipe and co-ordinate all the information.

## **Received complaint about the noise from strimmers from Loveday road.**

(copy of the specific email chain not included in the minutes to maintain confidentiality of the complainant)

### TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Bank Account currently has £1028.21 in it.

- This will be reduced significantly once Christina's expenses have been paid.
- Kim is chasing up Pathways as the funding cheque is now overdue

### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

- All rent has now been paid by plot holders bar one; Gordon Killick.
- Next year we will send out a stern letter/email that serves as an overdue payment of 40 days- notice with a warning that if any plot holder not having paid after 40 days will lose their plot. There will be no reminders.

### MAINTENANCE REPORT AND UP-DATES

- Volunteer day was very successful. This time we completed clearing out the hedgerow. We completed everything we needed to complete.
- The next Volunteer Day we will be trimming any protruding branches from the boundary hedge through the fence. We are planning to do it all in one go.
- Note to current and future committee; clearing the hedgerow is easier in winter due to there being less growth.
- For the Volunteer Day in August we will be having a big clean up, doing any work that needs doing to get ready for the Open Day that month, such as strimming etc.
- Fertiliser has been put on the grass paths to improve the health of the grass

### JON'S REPORT

Nothing to report. There is not much recent content on the website though Hilary will soon be adding quite a few bits of content about gardening under cover.

### SKIP

See point on rubbish collection below.

### CARS ON THE SITE

On our last volunteer day we had a few cars on site by the main gate and a somewhat unpleasant interaction with a plot holder who did not appreciate the area was being used for volunteer day tasks and barbeque. Brian always parks his car there and plot holders can park their cars there but should leave a note with their plot or phone number on should they need to be contacted. Christina will talk to Brian to let him know his car should not be parked there during Volunteer days.

## RUBBISH COLLECTION

The decision was taken to not go ahead with the 'new bins' idea as it will be too difficult to police on site. Instead we will be ramping up on the number of skips in order to get rid of rubbish accumulated on site. Skip deliveries will need to be arranged for Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of June so it can be filled by committee members first then by plot holders the next Saturday morning. There will be another on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July as that will be close to the Open Day. Signs will have to be made which Simon will do.

## PUMP PROJECT (APP)

- Work on the fourth and final pump has now started. 161b had a 1980s concrete well which was wonky with a sluice or grate and tank. Dominic and Simon put in a new grate and wooden top. Pump pipework has been installed.

## 229 COMMITTEE AREA

Simon showed the plan for the plot 229 as committee plot. The air raid shelter will be displayed there, the bath will become a pond and there will be places for people to sit. There will also be a veg patch with root veg, Simon has a plan and will arrange for seeds. Vanessa is considering growing them to support us.

## OPEN DAY UPDATE/PLANNING

Christina has sent out an e-mail to ask for help and expertise for the Open Day. Minimum response received (advice from one plot holder to include children's activities). The Open Day is an opportunity to showcase plot holders' hard work, get plots up to scratch and add to community spirit and show that the site is an asset to the neighbourhood.

- It was decided the Open Day will be on August 15<sup>th</sup> and will run from 2-5 pm.
- We decided against animals on the day. (e.g. children's farm)
- We are covered by RHS insurance for open day.
- Banners for fence to advertise the open day, also use local forums.
- Christina said she would do an Allotment tour on the day for those interested and Jas and Mary will do face painting.
- We can download colouring in drawings, Christine will source colouring pencils.

- Christina's husband will write a press release which can be used for The Gazette etc. We will also advertise on Facebook, forums and the website.
- There will be tea, coffee and soft drinks to sell.
- Those who help to guide people on site on the day will be wearing high visibility vests.
- We would like to be part of the National Garden Scheme but we would need to charge an entrance fee to donate to NGS but could keep any other moneys we make by selling things like tea and cake.

## NOISE NUISANCE COMPLAINT

It has been agreed that some guidance can be given to plot holders on how to be a good neighbour in relation to noise caused by strimming etc. We agreed not to ask plot holders to stick to certain times a day. Christina to come up with some wording for an email/letter to be sent out to plot holders. It can also be in Hilary's guidelines doc.

## HOSEPIPE BAN

As per Chairman's report, an email will be sent out to plot holders to outline the policy and implications of flouting the ban. A letter will be sent out to those who do not have email. Simon will be creating signs for the taps.

## FIRST AID KIT

A first aid kit is needed on site and should be kept in the committee shed. On our last volunteer day we had a plot holder with a small cut and we realised we should have a first aid kit. Hilary to do research to find out which kit to purchase and purchase one.

## MATT'S TREES

Christina shared the spreadsheet she received from Matt that details the number of trees, their age, variety and rootstock and what he intends to do with them (keep or remove). The team reviewed the plan and concluded that Matt needs to do more in terms of removing trees than his intended documented plans outline. Matt is also still not cultivating the majority of his plot either. Christina to email and talk to Matt again and ask him for a plan of what he wants to keep. Matt could draw a plan with circles around trees and where they overlap, trees should go. We agreed to stick with 25% in terms of maximum tree population on his plot. He needs a final deadline.

## AOB

It was decided that all reports (Chairman's report/secretary report/ website report) will need to use the report template and send out the completed (with

notes) version prior to the committee meeting to the committee. To be done for maintenance report if there is a lot to discuss.

Hilary to circulate draft of the Guidelines doc before July 14<sup>th</sup>. Committee members to review.

#### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> July. 19.30pm