

EALING DEAN ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

MINUTES July 10 2019, 7.30pm, The Forester

Present: Christina Fox, Penny Wark, Tana Scott, Emma Payler-Lodge, Richard Ashcroft, Navroz Chandan, Dominic Small

Dominic Small was unanimously co-opted as a general committee member.

PW to ask JW to set up EDAS email and Google drive access for DS; DS to send email address to JW.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed. Matters arising:

CF is now administrator for Save Northfields Allotments FB page.

CF to redesign allotment application form.

RA to get Costco card.

CF to buy essential tools.

**Chair's report:**

Plots rented out: 167B, 197A, 230B

Matters covered:

A successful Summer Open Day (1046 visitors) with excellent social media coverage, great support from volunteers, a wonderful choir and Ealing Art Beat. Improvement focus: marquees.

Absentee gardening is being tackled with positive outcomes.

CF attended the Northfields' Ward Forum and passed on the news of Pathways' decision.

**Maintenance**

The August 3 volunteer day will focus on getting 167B rental ready, grass cutting, removing weeds behind compost on maintenance plot, and Radbourne Walk maintenance.

September volunteer day: Radbourne privet; install more plastic grids in main path.

CF to contact MH at Pathways re skip invoice to outgoing tenants who leave rubbish.

DS to research cost of plastic grids for path.

EP to merge 2 maintenance schedules.

TS/SC to measure plots changing hands, and rear of 178A.

### **Secretary's report**

Upstairs room at The Forester booked for committee meetings for second Monday of month until November 2020. Exceptions are August and December 2019, and the April 2020 meeting which falls on Easter Monday and needs to be moved. Christmas drinks space in public bar booked for Friday December 6, 7.30pm.

PW: send committee meeting dates to DS; send RA dates which don't yet have a room.

TS to ask independent auditor how much time she needs to check annual accounts.

PW to finetune 2020 AGM timeline.

PW/RA to sort out committee@ email, and install EDAS email on PW's laptop.

### **Treasurer's report**

Bank balance as at 10 July 2019

- Site management account £2,762.90

Income and expenditure since last Committee Meeting of 12 June 2019

- Site Management account – no transactions

TS to circulate Summer Open day takings.

### **Website/Social media**

Good practice to use only our own pictures, and to avoid images of people unless they have explicitly given permission.

CF to send EP list of winning plots.

EP to put pictures of winning plots on website.

RA to post about reluctance of some plot holders to be pictured on social media.

KA to manage social media. Suggest liaison with Fran.

RA to talk with JW re changing website name to Northfields Allotments.

CF to close Twitter account.

DS to contact IB re changing FB page name to Friends of Northfields Allotments.

### **Non-cultivation**

Additional site survey discussed to follow up on non-cultivation/under cultivation concerns. It was eventually decided not to do this, but to discuss concerns with small number of plot holders who appear to be neglecting their plots.

## **Bees**

TS to draft email advising bee keepers to give sight of BBKA membership to EDAS annually.

## **Theft/criminal activity**

Vintage signs missing; wood pilfered from plots; concerns about possible trespasser. Changing the site locks was discussed; this is expensive but is an option.

CF and PW to follow up with plot holders.

## **Halloween**

Open day waste disposal system successful and to be continued.

Existing stock of cups for tea and mulled wine will cover Halloween 2019. Use PLA lined ones in future.

PW to lead on pumpkins – ordering, carving, distributing, collecting, selling.

RA to book Face painter for 3-5pm Saturday October 26 2019.

EP to buy washable plastic plates.

EP to ask NO'C about borrowing re-useable cups from Fielding School.

## **Cultivating Ealing**

TS to find out date of judges' next visit.

## **Walpole/Northfields ward grants**

The Walpole grant has not been entered in the budget or signed off.

PW to write to Walpole councillors.

## **Communal plot**

Monday July 22, 7.30pm: Committee to stake out proposed areas.

Committee to advise FB of proposed layout so that she can choose a place for her vine.

## **AOB**

H&S: we need an Accident report log, and to risk assess maintenance tasks.

CF to research H&S practice at council allotments

Colin Bibra has offered sponsorship for Halloween.

RA to follow up

CF to pass additional tap request to Pathways.

**Next meeting: Monday August 12, 7.30pm, location to be confirmed (long table available in bar at The Forester, but upstairs room unavailable.)**