

EDAS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Sunday 20th September 19.30

Drayton Court Hotel

Present - CF, MN, CE, CH, JW, PB, AC

1. Apologies for absence - SM
2. Actions from the last meeting **Action CH to share an example access agreement.**
3. Last meeting's minutes were approved
4. AGM prep - a. The three strikes policy is on the website, it is in the handbook and is in our agreement with Pathways.
b. Constitutional change - **Action CF to rewrite the clause.**
c. Finance split - to be considered next month.
d. CE provided a timeline to the committee of the AGM. **Action CE to book the venue**
5. The communal plot consultation has now closed. There were 44 individual responses, equating to a 30 percent response rate. The consultation ran initially for three months but was extended to four to allow time for everyone who wanted to take part. The Data will be presented after the AGM has taken place and then will be emailed out to the membership. Boards will be placed on the communal plot and a QR code will be included to link to the data.
6. Halloween - The committee looked at ivolunteer, it has now been launched and the volunteer numbers need to be higher before launching ticket sales. We are short of volunteers at the gates and stewards. The rest of the preparation is proceeding according to plan. As a precaution it was decided that the committee should write a cancellation policy in the event of needing to cancel the event. **Action for CH to add a detailed map of the allotments to the FAQs with gates/bus stops and what three words.**

Action for Martin to buy foam 2 fire extinguishers and a fire blanket.

Action - for CF to source Buying a new bbq

7. Plot inspections - The committee discussed Inspections.
8. The committee discussed trees and the issue of shade. The committee discussed that tree works were the site's largest maintenance cost, with each tree works costing over +£2500 (and much more depending on complexity) despite a negotiated discount. It was agreed that any works that were a safety risk would be prioritized. Any other tree works that were non-safety related would need to be considered carefully due to the significant cost. In most situations, pruning would be preferred as the cost to remove trees is not affordable.

In general, it's better to remove excess trees while they are small. For those in the hedgerow, the committee proposed and agreed to create a hedgerow management plan, so that sections

of the hedgerow would be managed, including rubbish clearance, pruning, removal of excess / unsuitable saplings and re-planting of native hedgerow.

Action MN to ask the tree company to look at the costs

Action CF - to create a site hedgerow and tree management plan.

9. No reminders (rent payments) yet to be sent to GC as several plots have become available.

10. Volunteer orientation - 4th October - CF emailed the whole of the waiting list inviting them to take part in tasks from the fruit garden to MM and 12 replied. This will provide an opportunity for them to be shown the site and the types of volunteering available.

11. The committee should have a visitors book to take details of volunteers which will be kept inside the tool shed, which should be treated as confidential and removed after MM. New visitors should be invited half an hour later, for an induction. Volunteer paperwork should be completed for any volunteer that has a key, so that they should abide by rules.

12. The newsletter was sent out and was well received.

13 - AOB - Following the exceptionally dry summer, the committee discussed water storage across the allotment and a possible group purchase of waterbutts combined with the sharing of ideas around gardening in a manner that uses less water and conserves water reserves.