

The Patch Allotment Association

Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday 27th February 2020. 10.00hrs

Members present: Les Burgess, John Such, Steve Forrester, Stewart West, Paul Pizarro,

OWPC: None invited.

Trustees: None invited

Apologies: Committee attendees severely restricted.

Minutes of Previous Meeting of 23rd August 2020 were agreed and accepted as a true record

Matters: Arising:

Bank Account: Steve stated that the account currently stands at £8638.76.

John said that there are around 120 people who are yet to pay their rent which will bring the figure up when they do. He will though shortly be sending out reminders to those people, with a warning that failure to pay will result in the termination of their tenancy.

Plot Inspections: John said that there had been no recent plot inspections. There have been a number of plots let to new tenants and he has been awaiting a response from the first three people on the waiting list, but after sending two emails and receiving no response from anyone he will remove them from the waiting list and after entering an explanation on the records, put them on the lapsed list. He further said that there is an OWPC parishioner wanting a plot who takes priority and he will contact him first and then work down the list.

Fencing: John said that we now have a date for the fencing, which is being installed on the Eastern boundary. This will start on 3rd October. This will connect with where the fencing reached after last year's installation, to complete the stretch down to the pedestrian gate. He also thanked Les and Stewart for their efforts in clearing the undergrowth along that stretch so that the workmen could gain access to that area.

Communications: Shiny has provided some paperwork showing the progress she is making with our new website. The committee present thought it looked good and were impressed with her efforts.

Polytunnel: Les said that the re-covering of the polytunnel has been held in abeyance until the plants and grapevine within had finished growing and could be cleared out of the way. He is hoping, weather permitting to get this done within the next month or so.

Aggregate: Les said that this is on order and will hopefully arrive soon, after which we can start laying it on the specified haulage ways.

Any other business:

Committee meeting: John explained that the number of people invited to this meeting had had to be severely restricted due to the government's restrictions on the number of people who were allowed to attend any meetings, but he confirmed that we did have enough in attendance for a quorum.

Plant money: Stewart handed over the taking for the plants he had raised and sold on behalf of the PAA. He said that the sum this year was lower than previous years and he could only put this down to the coronavirus pandemic. There had been fewer ploholders purchasing them and we usually had good sales at St Mary's church fete, but this year it had been cancelled. He was though able to hand over to the treasurer £264.34 and the committee thanked him for all his efforts.

Social events: Les reminded the meeting that there had been no social events on site this year e.g. the usual fish and chip supper and then the allotments open day, where we usually raise money in a raffle for Willen Hospice. We therefore decided to donate £100 and OWPC, who usually donate money towards the open day, also donated £100, to Willen this year. We have now received a thank you letter for the £200 from Willen Hospice.

Retirement: John then made a statement saying that this would be his last year as secretary of the PAA. He would be standing down in March when the AGM should be taking place. Although he was pressed to stay on he said that he had now completed 6 years as secretary, 6 years as site rep prior to that and has been on the management committee since we have had devolved management and felt it was time to stand down from these roles and concentrate on working his plots. He agreed that he would stand to be elected as a committee man to continue with helping the PAA in its duties in running the site.

He said he would help over the winter to bring all paperwork up to date and try and outline the yearly duties for the next secretary.

John will retire in March when the AGM should be held and a new secretary can be elected. Should there be a delay in our being able to hold an AGM again, due to Covid 19. Paul has offered to temporarily take over as secretary until an election can take place.

Meeting closed at: 10.50.

Minutes taken by:

John Such
Secretary