



### **Minutes of Committee Meeting Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

1. Present: Chairman; Carole Allen-Morley, Secretary; Denise Audoire, Treasurer; Robert Le Grice, Bill Chandler, Roz Chandler, Melissa Doherty, Jenny Fakes, Diane Kingston, Alex Mc Ardle, Iain Messenger, Stephen Treglown
2. Apologies – Deborah Sargant
3. Finances – Income from rents £68 and £120 in deposits. Expenditure-Since January £229.98 for the boundary fence and £366 on the skip. Deposits held of £3,810.00 and funds available for spending of £3,302.67. Robert suggested placing 75% of deposits into a Building Society paying a higher interest rate. It was agreed that Robert will find a suitable Building Society for deposits. Any interest earned could go towards RAHA funds. Two signatories will need to be added to the new account in addition to the Treasurer. It was agreed that the Chairman Carole and Secretary Denise will be signatories.
4. Butterfly Survey – Robert will work out a rota for his team of volunteers to begin on 1<sup>st</sup> April. He has e-mailed Members a list of plant species which attract butterflies. He will be planting a butterfly and pollinator friendly garden on his plot.
5. Minutes of the last meeting Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2019 were agreed
6. Matters Arising –
  - a. Green Fair – Diane and Carole shared a stand with TROG. A good amount of produce was on show of vegetables with jams and chutneys for tasting. There was a lot of interest from the visitors.
  - b. Manure – Two deliveries have been put on the car park. Manure is better quality. It was agreed to have another delivery. Carole will announce it on RAHA Facebook page.
  - c. Bonfires – Robert recently had to ask a member to put a nuisance bonfire out. The town Council allotments have been warned about bonfires from the Council. Members are reminded only to burn dry waste and not to bring anything from home to burn. Committee Members can ask Members to put their fires out if causing a nuisance.
7. Rainwater Storage –
  - a. Newsletter coverage – Diane covered the subject of water collection, making it safe for hedgehogs and other wildlife.
  - b. Correspondence with Member regarding water storage – Iain had drafted a letter to the Member as asked last meeting, but the Committee decided to focus on what safety plans will be in place for the water storage plan. It was decided that Carole will contact the Member by e-mail instead. The plot will be checked in the next plot inspection.
8. Draft Guidelines – The following to be added to the list published in the January Minutes
  - Water Containers - No new buried water containers to be allowed on plots and any existing ones must be made safe.
  - Robert will be asked to check the Insurance Policy to see if they have a risk assessment form we can use.
  - Communal paths should be kept clear for access.

9. Skip / Scrap Collection – The skip was a success and helped get rid of a lot of waste. Metal was kept separate for a scrap dealer to collect. Members with scrap metal can ask Committee Members where to place it for collection and Carole will arrange a pick-up when sufficient has accumulated.
10. Plots update / Waiting list – There 12 on the waiting list. Around 6 of those are ready to take a plot now. Only 1 vacant plot 12A has recently become available. Denise will send Committee Members a list of plots taken on during the past year to use during monthly plot inspections.
11. Estates Manager Vacancy – Carole has been carrying out the duties of Estates Manager and is happy to continue rather than appointing another person. Committee agreed by majority of votes for her to continue in the role, with the help of Iain and Stephen. Iain, Denise and Stephen will continue manage the Waiting List and plot letting.
12. Waiting List Procedure – A part of draft Procedure was discussed and will be amended. Further parts will be discussed at future meetings. It will be available to Members when complete.
13. Estates Management
  - Road Repairs – Collecting stone for the roads has resulted in a trailer being badly damaged. Stone will now have to be delivered at cost of £80 per tonne. A work party will be required for filling potholes.
  - Boundary Fence – The boundary fence replacement behind plot 25 was a success.
  - Working Parties – Details of working parties will be announced when dates have been arranged.
  - Water Pumps – Two Members are happy to be contacted for help with water pumps.
  - Plots Inspections – Committee were reminded to check plots are being worked, also if water pumps are in working order. Organisation of pump sharing and advisers will be aimed for. Inspections will begin on 1<sup>st</sup> April with results sent to Carole by 5<sup>th</sup> April. 50% of plots should be worked. 80% of grass will not be accepted.
14. Romsey Show – Melissa has been trying to find out the Romsey Show theme for this year. Iain offered to look into it.
15. A.O.B.
  - a. Radio Interview – A local Radio Station had contacted Carole requesting an interview about the Allotments. This will not take place now as Romsey Town Allotments will be interviewed instead.
  - b. Test Valley 2020 - Borough of Culture – After going to the first meeting, Carole suggested taking part in this as it ties in with the La Ronda Open Gardens. The Committee agreed to take part.
  - c. Summer Show – Melissa offered to organise the Summer Show in August. The Rugby Club was suggested as a venue. Iain will organise the booking.
  - d. A dispute over a plot boundary was reported. Carole will measure the plot to define the boundary.
  - e. Boundary Hedge – The boundary hedge will not be cut this spring as it was considered unnecessary.
  - f. Rubbish – Recent gales have resulted in one shed being blown over and some rubbish being scattered around the site. Members are asked to contain any rubbish on their plots especially near the railway line.
  - g. Suggestion of advice on growing to be available to new Members. Diane will include the subject in the Newsletter.
16. Diary Dates –
  - Committee Meeting – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 7.30pm
  - Committee Meeting – Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019 7.30pm
  - Summer Show – August 2019 – Date to be arranged
  - Committee Meeting – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 7.30pm
  - Romsey Show – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019
  - A.G.M. Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 7.30pm
  - Rent Day – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2019 10.00am – 12.00 noon
  - Committee Meeting – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 7.30pm (New Committee)







