

RAHA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting held on 4th September 2023

Held at Comrades Club at 19.30 hrs

1. Attendance

Carole Allen-Morley (CAM) - Chair

Bill Chandler (BC), Jules Facchini (JukesF), Jenny Fakes (JF), Wayne Lawrence (WL), Iain Messenger (IM), Deborah Sargant (DS), Alf Tilt (AT).

2. Apologies

Gemma Collins (GC) Stephen Treglown (ST).

3. Minutes of last Committee Meeting 17th July 2023 – Approved.

4. Matters Arising

- A. *Site Container* – IM has made alternative transport arrangements for the container. Hopefully it will happen before the AGM.
- B. *CCTV Cameras & Security* – Brief recap of the several years of CCTV research undertaken by Robert LeGrice and previous unsuccessful attempt to track plot holders' vehicle registration plates. Suggestion we use wildlife cameras. Questions raised: Who looks at film, what happens to film, how do we know plate numbers, privacy. Committee agreed Facebook comments raise awareness and act as deterrent. Ask police to do drive through of site, take photos and put up on police web-site – CAM
- C. *Locking the Gates* – Possible to shut gate automatically using weights. Don't want to block bike lane at entrance gate in day time with cars, so only an option for exit gate. Committee agreed the first action should be that the person who thinks they are last on site will shut gates as was the habit before COVID.

5. AGM

Carole will step down to allow new Chair bring new ideas and energy to Committee. Bill will step down. Iain will serve one more year as Treasurer. Three Committee members undecided.

Members needed to volunteer for Chair, shadow Treasurer, Secretary and Events Co-ordinator at a minimum.

Vote on rent increase. Committee recommend £2 per rod – vote at the AGM on 16th October.

Agenda to include:

- Gate closing
- Leniency for older plot holders
- Plot eviction timeline

6. Community Plot (Plot 95)

Needs cutting. JF and DS will scythe and strim Wednesday evening. Please join in.

CAM will flag raspberries and asparagus so they are not cut!

7. Web Site and E-mail

Hosting transferred to GoDaddy. LCN contract runs out 12th October.

Web-site. New and improved look. Topical issues posted on Latest News & Information. Recipes reinstated under RAHA, including Chocolate Courgette Cake.

E-mails. Carole still unable to access LCN emails, and first e-mail on GoDaddy site is 8th August. (Note – Carole is technically inept.) Contacts List not transferred. Committee voted to continue GoDaddy process with proviso if issues cannot be solved by 30th September, we revert to LCN.

Update since meeting – All e-mail messages are accessible through GoDaddy. Thank you Gemma.

Contact List still not transferred.

8. Finances

- A. Income and Expenditure - £157 paid out for insurance. £4,000 in HSBC accounts available to spend. £4,930 in Teachers account as plot deposits.
- B. Change of Banks – all paperwork submitted. Transfer from Teachers to HSBC Saving will happen early November.
- C. Plot Deposits – Plot deposits are being reconciliated with plot holder names by IM and JulesF. Ongoing.

9. Waiting List

32 people on Waiting List. Seven are existing Members wanting extra rods. Five want to be deferred to January.

10. Plots Update

Plot Audit undertaken by ST, CAM and JulesF beginning September. 41 plots were not compliant with Rule 9c. Six plots known to have medical issues.

Discussion about new plot holders who quit in first three months getting their deposit back. Bigger incentive to work plot if you don't get money back. Time and effort spent by Letting Team. Further deterioration of plot. Committee voted to not return deposit. Correspondence with new plot holders will be updated accordingly.

Committee – we need to be tougher in getting rid of bad plot holders. Change time line for eviction ? Raise issue at AGM.

11. Grounds Maintenance Co-ordinator Report

Weeds at manure area cleared before manure delivery. Thanks BC

Road repair action needed to clear car park and before scalping set hard. WL to arrange work party.

Pump on 108A still needs to be lowered. WL will fix.

12. Any Other Business

Plot holders at 31B and 18 are collecting excess produce to take to the Food Pantry. Discussion about produce attracting rats. Committee voted to buy plastic containers with lids for plot holders.

13. 2023 Diary Dates

16th October 2023 AGM (Monday) 21st October 2023 Rent Day (Saturday)

13th November 2023 - Committee Meeting (Monday) / New Committee