

Romsey Allotment Association Committee meeting

Monday 25th March 7.30pm Comrades Club

Present: Carole Allen-Morley (Chair), Jules Facchini (Membership Secretary), Jenny Fakes, Alf Tilt, Deborah Sargent, Dave Watson, Iain Messenger (Treasurer) & Shirley Dawson (Secretary)

1. Apologies: Wayne Lawrence (Estate Management Co-ordinator)

2. Minutes of last meeting Approved

3. Site Container

Carole, Alf, Dave and Bill had a site meeting on 23rd January. List drawn up of works required to make container watertight and useable.

Carole bought waterproofing and did the roof. Now dry inside. Thanks to Carole for waterproofing roof. Work party needed for rust removal. **Carole** to organise on Facebook.

Alf researched locks - 4 possible locks all around £150. **Iain** to send details to our insurance company to decide which one most suitable. Committee agreed in principle to spending on the lock. **Alf** to find best price when decision on which lock to purchase made.

Not able to use a paint sprayer (as discussed at last meeting) as need electricity-none on site.

Need metal sloping roof added to catch rainwater and for drainage, with overhang over door to prevent water ingress.

Have a Facebook competition to name the container.

4. Code of Conduct

Dave drew up a draft code of conduct for members. This is following up and in response to members comments at the AGM. Committee agreed well written and friendly - just need to add our vision at the top : "Growing, Nature, Community". Thanks to Dave for all his work on this.

Put Code of Conduct on Web site, Noticeboard and Facebook profile. Committee accepted this Draft form pending a vote at the next AGM.

5. Entrance and Exit Gates

Gates are done. Thanks to Alf for researching and co-ordinating work. **Alf** to sort out permanent pegs with hooks to keep gates from swinging shut when open. Temporary posts in place at the moment. At the AGM it was agreed to keep gates open during the day and closed at night by last person to leave site. Due to increased thefts, and with the new ease of closing gates with Jockey wheels, may want to reconsider this at the next AGM.

6. Web Site and Emails

Emails now working. Cost of maintenance of Website, Domain name and emails with GoDaddy will be approx. £350 a year. Due for renewal in July. **Dave** to research alternative providers. **Carole** to put Dave in touch with Robbie.

7. Community Plot

No progress at the moment. Discuss at next meeting.

8. Thefts at Council Allotments and Ours

Carole has had contact with the Council allotments, no-one on either site has been reporting thefts correctly. Therefore no formal records are available at Council of severity and frequency of thefts. We have been reporting to Police but their under-resourcing results in no action. **Carole** to put on Facebook, noticeboard, and email members the details of where to report so we can keep track of thefts.

9. Finances

Deposits (untouchable)	£4,030.00
Day to Day operational a/c	£6,136.00
Remnant of Teachers B/S	£30.00
Total	£10,196.00
Recent Expenditure Gate	£1188.00

Rents received including new lettings since last meeting : £279

Budget for:

- More road planings for the summer, buy Road Tamper (to flatten planings in holes)
- Skip
- Ongoing Container Renovation. Approx. £1,000
- More equipment for loan to members - start with a couple of strimmers and assess demand. Discussed whether petrol or battery. Those renting tools pay deposit and fee. **Alf** to investigate cost of strimmers.

10. Waiting List

41 on the Waiting List

Of these 3 Deferred

4 current plot holders

11. Plot Update

3 plots available

6 plots let

Dave, Carole and **Jules** to do Plot inspections in April concentrating on plot numbers present, weeds and rubbish.

12. Grounds Maintenance Co-ordinator Report

Wayne not present

a) Road Repair

Road planings needed for the summer

b) Pumps

Discuss at next meeting

13. AOB

Carole to write to plot holders about thefts, Work parties for container and road maintenance, and ask if anyone has any equipment to donate, e.g. Strimmers.

Date of next meeting : **13th May 2024**