

Blandford Allotment Society
www.blandfordallotments.com

**Minutes of meeting held at the Lamperd's Field Store Room
On Monday 14th August 2017 at 7 pm
Chaired by Amanda Bibby**

Present: Amanda Bibby- Chair, Andy Dickinson – Treasurer, Pat Richardson – Webmaster, Ann Edwards – Social Secretary/Minute Taker, Ian Ricketts – Seed Secretary, Diane Mawer – Plot Allocator, Ken Pearce – Plot Allocator, Norman Moors – Estate Manager. Apologies for absence: Dave Buchan

1. The meeting was opened at 7 pm by Amanda. The minutes of 20th June and 17th July were read and approved.
2. Matters Arising
Andy said that Ann can sign the form as the extra signatory when she returns from holiday on Monday 28th August. Yellow cards had not yet been erected at Elizabeth Road. It was arranged that this would be done by the Committee on a walkabout on Wednesday 16th August at 6.30 pm.
3. Review of Roles in anticipation of AGM and the year ahead. Positions to be allocated.
 - a. Webmaster – Pat is happy to carry on in this role.
 - b. Treasurer – Andy is happy to carry on in this role.
 - c. Spraying – Norman and Ian are happy to carry out this task.
 - d. Social Sec – Ann is happy to carry on.
 - e. Seed Sec – Ian is happy to carry on. He says he will make seed catalogues available at the close of the AGM on September 29th.
 - f. Plot Allocators – Ken and Diane are happy to continue
 - g. Pest control – Norman is happy to carry on this task.
 - h. Lawn Mowing – Norman is happy to carry on doing this.
 - i. Estate Management Team – Will now consist of Norman, Ian and Ken.
 - j. Dung control – Norman is happy to be responsible for this.
 - k. Cleaning/storage – Amanda agreed to take on the responsibility of cleaning and storage, and will provide an up to date rota on the board for cleaning.
 - l. Chair – Amanda. She is happy to continue, and the Committee are too.
4. A.G.M.
Ian has two cups to present at the A.G.M. and will have them engraved ready. He will also produce certificates for second and third best plots. The A.G.M. will be on Friday September 29th, 6.30 pm for 7 pm, with refreshments being served at 6.30 pm. Rents can be paid to Andy at that time too. It is thought that a member of the Town Council should be invited to attend, and maybe make a presentation. Amanda/Ian are to organize this. Amanda said that she would make a point of reading out our Allotment Agreement at the meeting, to remind allotment holders that they do need to read it carefully. She said she would also explain the yellow warning and red warning process.
5. Yellow Warning Letters, date for review – no less than one month after yellow letters were issued. 16 yellow warning letters had been issued on 31st July. It was agreed that after the coffee morning on Saturday 2nd September, the Committee would walk those allotments, and check on progress. If necessary, at this point, red warnings will be issued.

6. Updates from Committee Members

Norman had suffered financial loss because people were not putting payment in his box for compost, and dung. It was decided that big signs would be put on the dung piles, and that his bags of compost and other supplies should be stored inside the locked room in the shed.

Ian suggested that he buy a new padlock with bigger numbers, and put the existing new one on the bottom of the gate to replace the broken one. This was agreed. He said the broken wire will be repaired. It had probably broken because of lack of oil. He asks that the Coffee Mornings should continue throughout the winter. This means that the first Saturday of each month will be a coffee morning, with a work party afterwards attending to current tasks.

Pat said all is ok with the web site. She would like more photos. Ian said he could email photos from facebook to Pat, for putting on.

Andy reported that little has changed financially and there are no major bills in the pipeline.

Ken and Diane reported that all plots are now full at Lamperds Field. Elizabeth Road had two plots where the rent hadn't been paid. This is being looked into by them and Andy. They had managed to find new allotment holders for all the vacant plots at Lamperds Fields, and congratulations were extended to them both for all their hard work.

Amanda said that it would be good to have something bold on both facebook and the website advertising the A.G.M. in the Corn Exchange on 29th September, urging people to come to the A.G.M. She also said that Sybil Stuart of the Town Council is getting married, and it would be nice to send our congratulations to her and her husband.

Ann said the next Coffee Morning is on Saturday 2nd September at 11 a.m. with Pat Richardson giving the talk about Charles Dowding's "a no dig approach to your allotment", and a work party afterwards.

7. Plot holders' requests for permission to erect structures.

Val Marjoram Plot 41B – approved (details with Chairman)

Christine Adams Plot 18B2 – approved (details with Chairman)

8. Plot Holder's request regarding sprinkler system

Mike Dickenson – Details of the water system plan will be referred to the Town Council by the Chairman, for their consideration.

9. Oops

Amanda and Andy had attended Camp Bestival, and used the small tent. Unfortunately, in the inclement weather, it had been destroyed. They apologized to the committee and offered to replace it. An amount had been donated by them and friends, as they were very upset at what had happened. However, the Committee felt that the tent was little used and it might be better to put the money towards an updated barbecue, which is sorely needed. Agreed.

10. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Monday 11th September Committee Meeting at 7 pm in the store room.

Friday 29th September A.G.M. at 6.30 pm for 7 pm in the Corn Exchange

Meeting closed at 8 pm

(Ann Edwards. 14/7/17.email:ann.musicblondie@gmail.com)