

**Blandford Allotment Society**  
[www.blandfordallotments.com](http://www.blandfordallotments.com)

**Minutes of meeting held at the Lamperd's Field Store Room**  
**On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at 7 pm**  
**Chaired by: Ian Ricketts**

*Present: Ian Ricketts – Chair, John Harding - Treasurer, Ann Edwards – Social Secretary/Minute Taker, Diane Mawer – Plot Allocator, Ken Pearce – Plot Allocator, Dave Buchan – Committee Member/Upkeep of allotments, Peter Brundish – Committee Member, Craig Whelan – Committee Member, Phil Williams – Elizabeth Road Representative. Apologies for absence: Babara Marjoram.*

1. The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.
2. Welcome to new Committee Members and their roles - Chairman  
Ian welcomed Peter, Craig and Phil and explained their roles. Peter will assist with the upkeep of the allotments, e.g. tractor driving etc., Craig will assist Pat with the website and Phil will represent Elizabeth Road Allotments.
3. Updates:
  - a. *Chairman/Seed Sec./Facebook admin, Ian Ricketts* said that the seed orders must be in by November 4<sup>th</sup>. He asked for a volunteer to take over the Seed Secretary position for next year. He said Facebook is working well and now has 47 members.
  - b. *Treasurer – John Harding*, reported that until Andy hands over to him on his return from holiday, and Lloyds Bank re-opens, he has been very limited in the role. He expects to meet up with Andy and Ken regarding the finances. In the meantime, the new strimmer had been paid for.
  - c. *Elizabeth Road – Phil Williams* reported that most of the taps are leaking. Ian is to meet Phil on site to mend the taps. Some hedges need trimming. These could belong to Dorset County Council. It was decided that the Lamperd's Field work party and Phil, should meet on site on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October at 2 pm.
  - d. *Social Secretary, Ann Edwards* said that the last coffee morning had been successful, when Vlad Gorre had demonstrated apple pressing. The next one is on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 11 am, when Annabelle Valentine will give a short talk on "Simple Home Brewing". Then there will be a Christmas coffee morning on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, where we will have mulled wine and Christmas nibbles. Ian said that he would endeavor to get 10 bags of compost to present for sale at the next coffee morning.
  - e. *Webmaster, Pat Richardson*, said she was pleased to have Craig on board to take off some of the burden of the website. She needs photos please of the AGM, and the one presenting the cup to "Best plot", which was taken at the apple pressing morning. Also, she would like some Autumn photos of any allotments at both Lamperd's Field and Elizabeth Road.
  - f. *Plot Allocators, Diane and Ken* – At the AGM the Lamperd's Field allotments were full. But since then, some have given up their allotments, and these are currently available for those on the list. At the moment there are 6 empty, with the possibility of 2 more. At Elizabeth Road 2 plots have been allocated. Plots currently available are: 1 full plot, 1 half plot and 1 quarter plot.

- g. *Upkeep of allotments, Dave Buchan* – He was extremely concerned about the tall fir trees on the perimeter. Some appear to be dead and could be dangerous. Ian said he would contact the Town Council to see who was responsible. There has since been a meeting between Ian and Council officials, when it was decided that some 12 are dead, that they are the responsibility of the Council, and they are arranging to have them felled. The Tuesday morning work parties are still happening.
- h. *Deputy Chairman, Barbara Marjoram* – Apologies for absence.
- i. *Committee Member, Peter Brundish* – He is exploring sources of manure for delivery to both Lamperd's Field and Elizabeth Road allotments.
- j. *Committee Member, Craig Whelan* – He is looking forward to working with Pat on the website, and has various technical ideas for its improvement, which he will discuss with Pat.

#### 4. Any Other Business

(a) Trees – See above at 3g.

(b) Tools – The new strimmer had been purchased. Ian asked that the work party think out what tools are actually needed – e.g. a new lopper. He will find out what the ring fenced fund with the Council is earmarked for, and how much is in the fund.

(c) Manure – Both Peter and Ian will explore sources of manure.

(d) Compost – Ian will buy 10 bags of general purpose compost to be offered at the next Coffee Morning on 4<sup>th</sup> November, if possible.

#### 5. Date of next meeting

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7 pm in Lamperd's Field Shed.

*(Ann Edwards – 30.10.17)*