

Blandford Allotment Society
www.blandfordallotments.co.uk
Minutes of Committee meeting held
On Monday 21st March 2022 at 7 pm
At Lamperds Field Potting Shed

Attendees :

Ian Ricketts – Chairman, John Harding – Treasurer, Barbara Marjoram – Plot allocator, Ann Edwards – Social Secretary, Annette Baxter – Seed Secretary.

Apologies for absence:

Virginia Barnard – Webmaster, Peter Brundish, Dave Buchan, Phil and Carol Williams – Elizabeth Road

1. The Minutes of the meeting dated 21st February 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
2. Matters Arising – No one has come forward to volunteer for producing a column in Blackmore Magazine. Please contact the Chairman if you are interested.

3. REPORTS

(a) Chairman – Ian Ricketts

The talks on the proposed move during the weekend of 12th and 13th March went very well, and the Sunday work party cutting pea and bean sticks was well attended.

The tractor has now been serviced and the front wheels replaced. There are some hazel cut pea sticks and poles for sale at £3. There will shortly be plot inspections. If ploholders want to give up their plot, please let the Chairman know so that they can be relet. I have the National Allotment Society log in details and will forward to the secretary for circulating to members.

The water will be turned back on by 1st April 2022.

(b) Treasurer – John Harding

As at 19th March, the balance at the bank stands at £3553.56, and petty cash held by treasurer at £291.16.

The tractor service cost was unfortunately much greater than had been expected, the final figure being £987.94, although perhaps this might have been expected as it had not been serviced since new in 2011.

The figures quoted for the balances include the service cost above as well as the tractor insurance £268 cost and also 2 new wheelbarrow wheels £46.96.

All the major costs for this year have now been paid, and we are running about £500 below the balances last year, still reasonably healthy, and showing that it was wise to build up a reasonable reserve over the past 3 or 4 years.

(c) Plot Allocator – Barbara Marjoram

Elizabeth Road plots are full.

Lamperds Field - 3 x 1/4 plots have been rented. That leaves 3 x 1/4 plots that still need some work on them before they are ready to rent out and will not be available until end April.

The potato competition has now started with 29 competitors, to date, with a couple of potatoes still available. Weigh in is at the coffee morning 3 September 2022.

(d) Seed Secretary – Annette Baxter

Nothing to report at this time.

(e) Elizabeth Road – Phil and Carol Williams

No report

(f) Webmaster – Virginia Barnard

No report.

(g) Site Maintenance – Dave Buchan

No report.

(h) Social Secretary – Ann Edwards

The first coffee mornings of the year on 12th and 13th March were well attended and very successful. There was a really good turnout and for people registering for the annual potato competition. The work party on the Sunday attracted a good number of people, and pea and bean sticks were cut and bundled.

As far as possible, coffee mornings will be held outside.

There will be no coffee morning in April, as Easter falls in the middle.

The next coffee morning will be on Saturday 14th May 2022, starting at 10.30 a.m. Plant swap and tool sale. Plus usual raffle at £1 a strip.

The June coffee morning will be on Saturday 11th June starting at 10.30 a.m. plus the usual raffle at £1 a strip. Speaker to be found.

The date of the Annual barbecue and Scarecrow Judging was agreed. It will be on Sunday July 10th 2022 starting at 2 pm. Byo dish, tipple, knife, fork and spoon and chair. Grand raffle. There will be a list, nearer the time, for ploholders to register their attendance and identify which dish they will be bringing.

(At last year's BBQ we had 50+ registering and 80+ attending, making it difficult for us to identify what meats etc. to purchase.)

Coffee Morning on August 6th at 10.30 am - (Tasting - Bring your dish and recipe) for courgette, carrot or beetroot. Plus usual raffle. £1 a strip

Coffee Morning Saturday September 3rd at 10.30 am. - Meet your Committee, prior to the Annual General Meeting at the end of September, plus potato weigh in and scarecrow judging. Plus usual raffle at £1 a strip.

A.G.M. in the Corn Exchange on Friday 30th September at 6.30 pm, paying rents, start at 7 pm. Refreshments included.

Coffee Morning Saturday October 15th. Details to follow.

Christmas Coffee Morning – 10th December. Details to follow.

(i) Committee Member – Peter Brundish

No report.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - The Treasurer asked that members of the committee should forward to him any receipts for expenses by the middle of May, so that they will appear in this year's accounts.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Monday 9th May 2022 at 7 pm in Lamperd's Field Potting Shed.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.

(secretary@blandfordallotments.co.uk)