

Blandford Allotment Society
www.blandfordallotments.co.uk
Minutes of Committee meeting held
On Tuesday 28th June 2022 at 7 pm
At Lamperds Field Potting Shed

Those present: Ian Ricketts - Chairman, Barbara Marjoram – Plot Allocator, Virginia Barnard – Webmaster, Annette Baxter – Seed Secretary, Phil and Carol Williams – Elizabeth Road
Apologies for absence: Ann Edwards – Soc.Sec., John Harding - Treasurer, Dave Buchan – Site Maintenance, Peter Brundish – Committee Member.

1. The Minutes of the meeting dated 10th May 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. No matters arising.

3. REPORTS

(a) Chairman – Ian Ricketts

There will be no access to Lamperds Field site on Sunday 3rd July until noon due to tree felling.

The Annual meeting between the Town Council and members of the Allotment Management Committee has been held and these minutes along with the minutes of this meeting will be circulated to plotheolders via email.

Plot judging has taken place.

Full plots –

1st Judith Potts: 58 points, 2nd Malcolm Fowler: 57.5 points,

3rd Diane Mawer: 56 points

Half plots –

1st Darrell Adams: 57 points, 2nd Chris Barnard: 53 points, 3rd Brooke MacCallum: 52 points

Quarter plots –

1st Heather Shepherd : 50 points, 2nd Dave Pearson: 49 points

Elizabeth Road –

1st Phil Williams, 2nd Amenda/Dave Beeling, 3rd Phil Adlem

Next year we may include an overall plot winner – across both sites.

(b) Treasurer – John Harding - No report

(c) Plot Allocator – Barbara Marjoram

Since the last meeting in May one plot has been let to new tenants, at Lamperds Field and three plots at Elizabeth Road. Some tenants have taken on extra plots – three at Elizabeth Road and two at Lamperds Field.

Elizabeth Road site is now full. Lamperds Field does have some plots available but work is required on them before they can be re-let. This still leaves a waiting list for both sites.

Another site inspection took place in June, this resulted in three red (eviction), letters being sent to Elizabeth Road tenants and one to a Lamperds Field tenant. (Some previous yellow warning letters resulted in us being advised that the tenant wished to give up). Following the June inspection two yellow warning letters were sent to tenants at Lamperds Field and two to Elizabeth Road. One tenant at Elizabeth Road has released half their plot.

If you are planning to downsize or not renew your plot/tenancy (in September) could you please advise me at plotallocation@blandfordallotments.co.uk or drop a note in the box in the shed at Lamperds Field.

There are two gaps (September and October) in the cleaning rota for the hut at Lamperds Field and we would appreciate it if some tenants can volunteer and sign up on the list in the hut please.

(d) Seed Secretary – Annette Baxter

The 2022/23 Kings Seeds catalogues will be despatched by the end of July/ beginning of August 2022.

(e) Elizabeth Road – Phil and Carol Williams

There are a couple of instances of plot holders having ponds on their plot (Lamperds Field and Elizabeth Road). For Health and Safety reasons they must be fenced off and can only be used as wildlife ponds. There have been instances of rubbish, e.g. wood (including nails protruding from them) etc. being left on paths. For Health and Safety reasons they must be safely disposed of within your own plot (or taken to the tip).

The gate at number 6 has been repaired. There are a few fence posts that will be repaired sometime.

For those who experience a rat problem a recipe has been identified to deter them. Mix hot chilli powder, ground white pepper and ground black pepper – sprinkle liberally around rat runs, rat holes and wherever they forage. They don't like it!

(f) Webmaster – Virginia Barnard - No report.

(g) Site Maintenance – Dave Buchan - No report

(h) Social Secretary – Ann Edwards - No Report

(i) Committee Member – Peter Brundish - No report.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – The Annual Barbecue is on Sunday 10th July starting at 2pm. We require numbers to be able to order the correct amount of meat/rolls by Wednesday 6 July please. So please sign up before then or send the required information – name, party number, dish you will bring to plotallocation@blandfordallotments.co.uk.

We also request help for 10am Sunday 10th July to help set up the site with the tables, gazebo etc.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 13 September 2022 at 7 pm at Lamperds Field.

6. The meeting closed at 8 pm.