

**Blandford Allotment Society**  
[www.blandfordallotments.co.uk](http://www.blandfordallotments.co.uk)  
**Minutes of Committee meeting held**  
**On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7 pm**  
**At Lamperd's 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, Ann Edwards – Soc.Sec., Dave Buchan – Site Maintenance, Peter Brundish – Committee Member, Ross Foster.

Apologies for absence: John Harding - Treasurer,

1. The Minutes of the meeting dated 28<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. No matters arising.

3. REPORTS

(a) Chairman – Ian Ricketts

Ian referred to the AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> September and asked if Committee Members wished to be re-elected. John Harding, Treasurer, had already said he would not be standing for re-election and will step down as Treasurer. Ann Edwards, Soc. Secretary, said she would also not be standing for re-election and has to stand down due to health problems. Rosalind Foster has volunteered to replace The Treasurer. The requisite form has been completed, and voting will take place at the AGM. A similar form is available for anyone wanting to volunteer for the Soc. Secretary's role.

All the rest of the Committee (Ian Ricketts, Barbara Marjoram, Virginia Barnard, Annette Baxter, Phil and Carol Williams, Peter Brundish and Dave Buchan, are happy to be re-elected.)

Ian needed clarification of the garden vouchers to be presented to winners at the AGM. 6 vouchers are needed. Elizabeth Road area is ready to plant the Hazel Coppice. The date will be announced at the AGM, but could possibly be 30<sup>th</sup> October. (To be confirmed.)

The Chairman said he had reports again of fruit and veg being taken off plots. Anyone found will be evicted.

Plot holders had asked that the dates for next year's (2023) events such as the barbecue, and the potato competition could be decided as soon as possible, as some plot holders need to book their holidays around these dates. It was agreed to get the 2023 diary events listed at the next Committee meeting.

(b) Treasurer – John Harding - Cash at bank £5223.77 as at 12<sup>th</sup> September. Cash in hand with Treasurer £215.32. Getting on for 50% of allotment holders have now paid. There were a few errors in invoicing which are now sorted out. The full Treasurer's report will be available at the AGM on 30<sup>th</sup> September.

(c) Plot Allocator – Barbara Marjoram - There has been a lot of activity on both sites since the last meeting. Some more plot holders have been evicted due to poor cultivation. Some other plot holders have reduced in size. We await to see if anyone does not pay their rent this year and to see if anyone else is giving up. We would urge anyone who does not plan to renew to advise me on [plotallocation@blandfordallotments.co.uk](mailto:plotallocation@blandfordallotments.co.uk) or ring the allotment phone – 07726127563 – so that we do not start contacting people inappropriately. We continue to prepare plots for reletting. The waiting list is long for both sites.

(d) Seed Secretary – Annette Baxter - The seed catalogues are now available from the shed and a handful of orders have been received already. Deadline for orders is 8<sup>th</sup> of October. This is in plenty of time for the early bird discount. An email was sent out to let everybody know and a post was put on our face book page. A sample order form has been put on the notice board in the shed and I am happy to help with any queries. Payments can be made by cheque, cash or, for the first time this year, by bank transfer.

(e) Elizabeth Road – Phil and Carol Williams - Nothing to report.

(f) Webmaster – Virginia Barnard – Nothing to report.

(g) Site Maintenance – Dave Buchan – Dave reported that there had been a lot of tidying up done at Elizabeth Road.

(h) Social Secretary – Ann Edwards - Ann expressed her sadness at not being able to stand for re-election this year. She has served on the Committee since December 2015 – the best part of 7 years. Volunteers for her post are invited. Speak to the Chairman (Ian Ricketts) if you are interested.

There are three remaining events in 2022.

1. The Annual General Meeting on Friday September 30<sup>th</sup>, 6.30 pm for 7 pm. Refreshments.
2. Coffee Morning on Saturday October 15<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10.30 am. Talk by Mike Holloway on "Closing down your allotment for the winter". Usual Raffle and free refreshments.  
(Nothing in November.)
3. Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10.30 a.m. Christmas coffee morning. Grand Christmas Raffle and Christmas nibbles.

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

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – The Allotment Mobile Phone charges have gone up 5 fold. Virginia will search for better alternatives.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Tuesday 22 November 2022 at 7 pm at Lamperds Field.

6. The meeting closed at 8 pm.