

Court Oak Road Allotments Association

Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 22nd May 2019 19:30 hrs
Quinborne Community Centre

Attendance

Glenys Nicklin, Astrid Fiess, Geoff Garrish, Andrew Large, Ian Wilson, Marian Stanley, Georgia Dunn, John McQuay, Gail Baddley, Derek Payne, Michael Fenwick, Stephenie Evan and Eric Douglas.

Apologies

John Bland

Minutes of last Annual General Meeting 21st March 2018 accepted as correct.

Matters Arising

A report regarding the use of slug pellets that contain Metaldehyde states they are now to be banned from June 2020 for use in open spaces. They are to be replaced by a pellet that contains Iron Phosphate.

Chair's Report

Many thanks given to all that helped on the open day particularly the open day committee. Many thanks for the support received from all people involved on the day.

We are to buy a number of 1000L water butts for sheds to collect rain water to be used for the raised beds. A skip will be necessary in the immediate future to remove waste material from site. Thanks given to Geoff Garrish for his endeavours in gaining the Lottery Fund for the raised beds and to John Bland for selling a lot of plants at the open day.

Secretary's Report

Thanks given to all that helped in the open day event and also to the people that helped during the clean up. Reported that the open day was a success with special thanks given to Geoff Garrish for his work with the raised beds. There were six plots being let in the summer and it's hoped more plots will be let this year. To increase the number of raised beds to if new raised beds proves popular. The costing of new raised beds is now complete and the rent is £14:00 (full) per raised bed.

Discussed the need to have vacant plots ready for use as it may improve the letting of plots. Difficult to keep plots not used in good condition as dangerous to mow as the ground is often uneven and grass regrows if not covered. Plot by Wolverhampton South boundary has been allowed to grow as a wild area as not suitable for cultivation together with a security issue in that area.

Treasurer's Report

Spread sheet circulated with itemised debit and credit for Court Oak Road Allotments Association (CORAA) indicating total balance in bank as of 22.05.19.

No water bill has been received for two years but money is available in bank when ready. Septic tank to be emptied this year approximately £350.00. Total amount in bank includes payment for raised bed at a cost of £9,974.00. Money made from Open Day will go towards more tables and gazebo's for next year. Thanks given for the grant of £550.00 from the Cooperative Society for a new shed to accommodate gardening items for people using the raised beds. Key liability is approximately £795.

Health and Safety

No injuries were reported during the year 2018 on Court Oak Allotments. To hire any power tools an indemnity form needs to be signed prior to use against possible injuries incurred during use. Also no-one under the age of 18yrs old can use the power tools. Any damage caused by the user will have to be reimbursed to CORAA for the repair. The amount charged for the fuel will remain at £5.00 per item.

The hazard of broken glass on plots has been reduced but plot holders still need to be vigilant as glass still remains in the soil. There are glass bins for the use of plot holders to dispose of any glass found on their plots. During clean up two old sheds were removed via a skip that was quickly filled. There is to be another clean up in the autumn as not all the rubbish could be accommodated in the previous skip. Thanks were given for all the help received in cleaning up the allotment site.

Damage to kerbs from the use of heavy machinery during the construction of the raised beds was noticed. This has been brought to the attention of the builder and is going to be attended to. Pyroacantha plants have been planted around a vulnerable area of the fence at the Wolverhampton Road South boundary to improve security. A metal shed was also removed that was in a state of disrepair. A reminder to all plot holders that when arriving or leaving the allotments to please shut and lock the gate.

The outer gate at the moment has no lock due to it being broken. The lock is the responsibility of BCC and has been reported. The outer gate needs some adjustment as is slightly out of alignment.

Reminders to plot holders to be vigilant about the amount of plastic rubbish brought on site and to dispose of any bits of plastic found. Encouragement to reduce plastic in general and to recycle if possible through the use of a communal area to put old pots and seed trays to be reused if possible.

Resolutions

None.

Election of Officers

Chair	Ian Wilson
Secretary	Andrew Large
Treasurer	Georgia Dunn
Safety Officer	Geoff Garrish
Auditor	Alison Lawson
Minute Secretary	Glenys Nicklin
Committee Members	Stephanie Evans; Astrid Fiess; Derek Payne; Marian Stanley; Michael Fenwick; Gail Bradley

Any Other Business

CORAA has now purchased a new large communal polytunnel for the use of all plot holders. We are trying to put wooden pallets down for plants to go on to keep them off the ground

Gail can provide pallets, wooden boxes and cardboard when needed.

Asked if there would be any wood chippings delivered and the answer was no there is no-one to deliver at the moment.

People requested numbers of anyone who may be able to deliver manure or mushroom compost. Mr Muck recommended as will deliver manure but not mushroom compost this can only be delivered to your home.

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Next Meeting

At the CORAA shed 7th August 2019 at 7pm. Any concerns or queries please email any committee members.