

Court Oak Road and Tennial Lane Allotment Society

Honorary President Alan Harbour

Committee Meeting Tuesday 14th January 2014
7.00pm at the Court Oak Public House

Attendance

Ian Wilson COR, Chairman, Andrew Large COR and TL, Secretary, John McQuay COR, Treasurer, Glenys Nicklin COR and TL, Stuart Guest TL, Dave Watkins TL, John McCarthy COR, Jo Stubbs COR, Marian Stanley COR.

1) Apologies

Roger Cobley

2) Acceptance of Minutes 3/9/13

Unanimous

3) Matters Arising

Re Secretary's Report (5 iii). Incident at Tennial Lane. Mohammed Riaz came and resolved the matter.

4) Future of Allotment Management

The Council wants the new Management Agreement accepted and signed by April 2014. There is no more discussions to take place. If Associations don't accept they will be taken over by outside management.

The biggest issue in the new Agreement is about Water/Sewer Management costs. We will be given a budget for this but if we exceed it we, the Association, will be liable to pay the extra. Therefore all plot holders have responsibility to conserve water using water collected in water butts and use composts to make the soil more water retentive. The Committee will monitor the water meter to ensure we do not exceed the current usage levels.

We have to elect a Health and Safety Officer to assess the site and maintain an accident book as part of the new Agreement. This will happen at the AGM.

Also as part of the Agreement the Council will undertake the cost of Public Liability Insurance to cover their allotment sites.

5) Date and Venue of the AGM and EGM.

Tuesday 18th March 2014, 7.30pm, Quinborne Community Centre.

6) Newsletter

This will contain details of the New Management Agreement, calls for new committee members, details of the shop facilities and goods and ways to conserve water.

7) Officers' Reports

(i) Chairman's Report

We need a couple of 1000 gall capacity water butts at both sites by the toilet blocks and the sheds at COR. Stuart Guest will check prices for these and costs for more water butts for the plot holders to purchase.

We need to gear up for the new year and AGM and encourage plot holders to take an active part in the running of their sites.

(ii) Treasurer's Report

All rents have been collected and submitted to the Council.

The shop will reopen in February. Stuart Guest has fitted rollers in the stock shed to hold the netting and weed control fabric which makes measuring easier. Andy Moseley has re-organised the shop stock and the shop is looking very professional. We need to compensate him for the seed stand.

The new membership cards are now date stamped on the day of purchase allowing the holder a full year before renewing.

The key change over has gone smoothly so far. The new padlock is in place and all old front gate keys are now redundant.

All the accounts are in order. (see attached report).

(iii) Secretary's Report

The rent collection went very well, all plot holders have paid. Tennal Lane plots are fully let. There are a few vacancies on Court Oak Road ready to be let.

Andrew attended a meeting with other Allotment Associations in the immediate area and the possibility of bulk ordering of stock was discussed. One of the sites does not have a shed so they could become Associate members of CORTLAA to be able to purchase goods from us.

Dave Watkins has volunteered to make a sandwich board which would be placed outside the gates at COR on a Sunday when the shop is open to let local people know about the shop. Also we could put a sign at Quinborne Community Centre to advertise the shop and plot vacancies

The possibility of hosting an open day was discussed.

8) Feedback from Plot Holders

- (i) Court Oak Road

None.

- (ii) Tennal Lane

The toilet door is sticking due to the wet weather.

9) Any Other Business

The water is off at both sites. Plot holders are asked to use a bucket of water to flush the toilets after use. Bleach is needed for the toilets for hygiene purposes.

Andrew will purchase Jeyes Fluid for sale in the shop.