

# *Court Oak Road & Tennial Lane Allotments Association*

## **FIRST NEWS LETTER FEBRUARY 2012**

The Committee of Court Oak Road and Tennial Lane Allotment Association (CORTLAA), is conscious that it has not communicated adequately with the plot holders of the two sites since its formation. We trust regular news letters will remedy this defect and CORTLAA now has a Website.

<http://www.buddlejagarden.co.uk/allotment/home.html>

The Committee consists of 13 elected members and meets every two months at Quinborne. The elected officers are

- Chairman- Ian Wilson
- Secretary- Andrew Large
- Treasurer- John McQuay

Committee members with nominated responsibilities

- Minute Secretary – Marian Stanley
- Site Secretary COR – John Bland
- Site Secretary TL – Pauline Webb

Copies of minutes are available on the Website and/or will be available in the Shop and on the two notice boards.

We have 118 plots: - Court Oak has 78 Plots Tennial Lane has 30 Plots.

CORRLAA was formed on 29 June 2010 when a committee was elected and recognised by Birmingham District Allotment Council (BDAC); we are an affiliated member of the BDAC and receive information and invitations to attend their meetings. CORTLAA was subsequently recognised by Birmingham City Council (BCC) as the legally constituted Association to manage the above two sites on behalf of BCC.

CORRLAA succeeded Tennial Guild (TG) in this capacity and received funds and stock when it was wound up. We were pleased to elect Alan Harbour Secretary of TG as our Honorary Life President

CORRLAA has a constitution based a model determined by BDCA (see the Website) and is required to manage the two sites in accordance with BCC Allotment Rules. One of our principal responsibilities is to collect the rent and we are paid 8% of rents collected by the Committee. **If you pay your rent directly to BCC, we do not receive commission.** We expect to receive £226 commission in 2012; this is a relatively small sum for the considerable amount of work undertaken by the Association.

BCC Allotments Department has no funds to assist allotment associations. Therefore, CORTLAA must seek to generate its own funds: we have three principal sources of regular income.

- 1) Rent Commission £226 2012**
- 2) Membership £140 2011/2012**
- 3) Shop**
  - **Net Income first year £ -10 (loss) 2010/2011**
  - **Net Income second year £ 842 2011/2012 (sales less purchases)**

In addition we seek financial grants

The Shop seeks to provide convenience by opening most Sundays 11:00 –12:00 and Saturdays during Spring/Summer and we buy in bulk to sell at competitive prices. We hold approximately £800/ £1,000 of stock and volunteers staff the shop. This is a heavy burden and new volunteers to help in the Shop would be welcomed. CORTLAA has a legal requirement and can only sell to members of CORTLAA. It is currently £2.00 per year for membership and your membership card which must be produced at point of sale. This year membership subs have generated £150. We are seeking to recruit additional Associate Members from the immediate area to increase our customer base and income.

In the second News Letter we will try to explain our progress to date.

John McQuay & Andrew Large

## **Court Oak Road and Tennal Lane Allotments Association**

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 3rd April 2012**

**7:30pm**

**Quinborne Community Centre**

**All plot-holders are welcome but only members of the Association will be able to vote and stand for election. Please can you advise the Chair before the meeting if you wish to make nominations for the Officers or Committee.**