

Court Oak Road and Tennial Lane Allotments Association
Honorary President Alan Harbour

Committee Meeting Tuesday 3rd September 2013 7:00pm at
The Shed on the Court Oak Road Site

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. Marian Stanley COR. John McCarthy COR. Andrew Moseley COR. Jo Stubbs COR. Roger Copley COR

1) Apologies

None

2) Acceptance of Minutes 11/6/2013.

Accepted with the following corrections:

Matters Arising - item 3 should read None

Feedback - item 5 should read Norman Avenue.

3) Matters Arising

Weed killer spraying has been carried out. The new Round-up weedkiller has sold well and we will order more. Picnic table is to be collected as soon as transport is available. Green Waste collection dates for COR to be placed on the notice board.

4) Newsletter and Rent Collection Dates

Rents are due on the 1st October. They can be paid on Sunday 29th September 10.30 - 11.30 am and subsequent Sundays in October. See Newsletter for further details of collection times at Tennial Lane, also winter shop closing dates.

5) Officers' Reports

i) Chairman's report. The two side roads, by the main Shed and the toilet block, need spraying with weedkiller. This should be carried out by the council who fund this from their budget. It is better to use the scythe cutter to cut the grass on the vacant plots rather than use weedkiller as this encourages the growth of mares tail. Ian and Andrew M. will use the cutter where necessary. Ian is prepared to build a fenced area to contain the wood chippings so they can be cleared from the car park.

The new Council Allotment Management Agreement is still in development but it should be ready for discussion by Christmas. There are issues around public liability insurance and water rate costs that still need to be resolved.

ii) Treasurer's report. (see attached financial report)

Shop takings for this year are almost the same as last year within a few pence. Takings are averaging £70 per week. Membership cards will be date stamped to allow for subscriptions to run for a complete year. John Bland has worked hard to clear a vacant plot and we have received £111 in donations.

We have received income of £1641 this year to date including £488 commission for rent percentage.

iii) Secretary's report.

Mohammed, from the Allotment Office is coming to COR on Thursday 5th September to measure and look at some plots. There are 3 vacant plots and some re-lettings to be completed due to plot holders moving plots. There are no vacancies at Tennial Lane. Two of the plots there have become unworkable as they are so overgrown. There is one person on the waiting list for TL.

An incident took place between two plot holders at Tennial Lane and is consequently being investigated by the police. This incident was witnessed by another plot holder and dealt with by the Secretary within half an hour. The Secretary notified the Council Allotment Office straightaway.

8) Feedback from Plot Holders

(i) Court Oak Road

The Ladies toilets at COR have been foully vandalised several times this year and are now completely blocked. The toilets are now closed until they can be cleaned and unblocked. In an effort to prevent vandalism in the future it was proposed that we replace the inner gate padlock (the keys to this unlock the toilet doors), so we can issue new keys to current plot holders, which will give added benefit of keeping unauthorised people off the site and improve security. This proposal was unanimously accepted. The new keys will be issued to plot holders when they pay their rent.

(ii) Tennial Lane

Problems with an over hanging tree will be dealt with by Dave Watkins who will have a word with the plot holder concerned.

9) Any Other Business

Query about bonfires. It is permitted to burn diseased plant waste during November.

10) Date, time and venue of next the Committee Meeting.

January 14th 2014. Time and venue to be decided