The Hungerford Allotments Holders Assosiation Annual General Meeting - 4 October 2021 Marsh Lane & Fairfields British Legion Hungerford - 7.00pm

Present:

Ted Angell, Andy Downs, Kate Druce, Zoe Coleman, Liz Barnett, Forbes Stephenson, Richard Dolton, Mark Roberts, Elizabeth Roberts, Maurice Elliott, Jenny Alford, Neal Pike, Alison Russel, Alfie Phelps, Tessa Brown, Derek Loft, Di Loft, A Sladen, Kate Edwards

Apologies: Belinda Robinson, **J**amie Hiatt, Robert James, Jerry Bray, Ben Howells, Liz Barnett, John Ryder, Pat Ryder, Martin Crane, Kerry Taylor, Karen Caulfield, Francis Small, Jane Pike.

Approval of AGM 2019 Minutes

Proposed - Derek Loft Seconded - Andy Sladen

Matters Arising

Clause to Constitution that the AGM may be delayed due reasons beyond our control was unanimously approved.

Chairmans Report

Copies of The Heads of Agreement Annual Review were provided.

Difficult year with Covid with no AGM in 2020.

There were no social activities in the past year.

The first social activity was The RBS Craft and Produce Show 18/10/20.

The report goes up to March 21. Both sites were full with waiting lists.

The Pandemic forced us to make restrictions on both sites to comply with the rules.

Some plots to the North side of Marsh Lane have not been let and have been grassed over.

We have increased the number of mini plots to encourage people to become allotment holders.

Managing the rubbish on both sites is a continuing problem.

HTC (Hungerford Town Council) paid for fencing between Fairfields and The Borough Arms.

HTC paid for the removal of tree branches on the western side of the Marsh Lane site. Ben Howells a Marsh Lane plot holder did the work.

The water system at Marsh Lane was renovated. The old wooden pallet supports were replaced with steel supports.

HAHA nominated the site at Marsh Lane as a site of Community Value.

The Composting Toilet is now open.

The value of our volunteered time of management of the sites based on a minimum wage amounts to about £5000 a year. So the financial benefit to HTC of the last 12 years amount to about £60,000. We thank HTC for all their support over the years.

The Fairfields site is on a rolling lease with Sovereign Housing.

The Marsh Lane Site is leased by HTC from the owner, a local landowner Frank Clothier and he has a development partner Donnington New Homes.

The current Lease for Marsh Lane ends December 2022

The Marsh Lane site is assessed by West Berkshire Council as not being capable for development for next 15 years.

Our object is to negotiate a longer lease. HTC has raised this issue with the Land Owner. The Annual Review was unanimously agreed.

Treasurers Report

Andy Downs reported on audited accounts for 01/04/20 to 31/03/21 These were posted onto the HAHA website. Our finances remain sound. We had an income of just over £7000 and expenses of around £6500. We have benefited from a high occupancy level at both sites. Our income from social activities was curtailed by Covid. An income of £259 was generated from seed sales and manure. Our community fund stands at just over £3000.

Accounts approved

Proposed - Andy Sladen Seconded - Richard Dolton

Seed Secretary Report

A small profit was made from the seed sales. Derek reminded plot holders and especially Fairfields that he has Ground Cover, Bird Netting or Fleece for sale. Please communicate with Derek by phone only. Seed Catalogues were distributed out.

Election of Committee

Committee members Martin Prew and Tony Lavers are retiring. The HAHA committee thanked them for their help.

Chairman - Ted Angell agreed to stay on.

Proposed - Neal Pike Seconded - Richard Dolton

Deputy Chairman to be left vacant at the moment. Ideally someone from Fairfields should take the post. No objections.

Secretary - Forbes Stephenson

Proposed - Derek Loft Seconded - Ted Angell

Assistant Secretary - Belinda Robinson happy to continue on.

Treasurer - Andy Downs happy to stand again.

Proposed - Ted Angell Seconded - Neal Pike

Assistant Treasurer - Zoe Coleman happy to continue.

Seed Secretary - Derek Loft

Proposed - Andy Downs Seconded - Ted Angell

We would welcome new Committee members, especially from Fairfields!