

Marsh Lane Site Meeting

Tuesday 1st March 2011 at the Croft Club

Start 7.30 pm

Notes of Meeting

Attendees

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Chris Tout - Chair | Geoff Greenland – Secretary | Ted Angell - Treasurer |
| John Stanley | Jamie Hieatt | Kerry Taylor |
| Belinda Robinson | Derek Loft | |

Apologies: Tony Drewer-Trump; Trevor Jackson; Diane Loft

| Item No | Description | By | When |
|---------|---|-------|---------------------|
| 1 | Notes of last meeting on 1 st February were agreed. Geoff to post on site notice board and send to J&B for web publication. | Geoff | 8 th Mar |
| 2 | Matters Arising. All issues and actions have been dealt with except: | | |
| | ➤ Gaining confirmation from Sue Jempson as to when she will be releasing her tenancy of plot 22. Belinda to email Sue again. | J&B | asap |
| | ➤ Trailer off site. | Tony | asap |
| 3 | Accounts | | |
| | a) ML rental income of £120; £12 for 2010/11. The remainder for 2011/12. | | |
| | b) ML expenditure on Kibosh (£38) and spoil removal (£100). | | |
| | c) Current ML balance is just under £300. | | |
| | d) £20 is outstanding against hire of hedge trimmer. | | |
| | Committee agreed that there was no other expenditure outstanding other than that for water equipment by Geoff and Kevin Elding. | All | n/a |
| 4 | Waiting List and Plot Holder "Initiated" Issues | | |
| | a) Agreed to offer Tracy an alternative to plot 2 until mares tail infestation has been resolved. J&B to action. | J&B | 8 th Mar |
| | b) Currently 11 names on the ML waiting list. | | |

5 By Champion – Work Done, Work Planned & 2011/12 Budgets

a) General Admin

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|-----|--|-----|---------------------------|
| i. | ML rental letter tabled by Ted and approved by the committee. Ted to issue by middle of March. | Ted | 18 th March |
| ii. | Agreed that ML admin budget for 2011/12 would be limited to insurance, rental, Site Clearance Sink Fund payment to HTC and loan repayment to HTC. Anticipated that committee members would continue not to claim for out of pocket expenses in 2011/12. However it was agreed to review the position again in 2012/13. | | |

b) Fencing, Gates and Hedges

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|------|--|--|--|
| i. | All hedge work now completed except for topping of southern hedge. Agreed not to do this as the hedge is strictly outside HAHA area of responsibility. | | |
| ii. | Agreed to try to undertake hedge work in the autumn in future, making the event something of a social occasion. | | |
| iii. | Agreed that a pair of loppers would be desirable and to purchase as and when funds are available – possibly later in 2011, otherwise 2012. | | |

c) Individual Plots

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|----|---|-------|----------|
| i. | Apart from the mares tail on plot 2 (which is to be treated with Kibosh) there are currently no issues. | Chris | On-going |
|----|---|-------|----------|

d) Paths and General Ground Works

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|----|---|-------|---------------------------|
| i. | Agreed to follow the seeding plan tabled by Chris except: | | |
| | ➤ Seeding of central drive will wait until autumn 2011 so as to allow access for manure trailers in spring 2011 and easier access to the central water point. | Chris | 18 th Mar |
| | ➤ Wild flower seeding to be subject to grant funding. Geoff to enquire with NWD AONB. | Geoff | 15 th April |

(Post Meeting Note: Geoff proposes to delay contacting NWD until after water is operational as a site demonstration to NWD would be a good link to a request for further funding. Is everyone OK with this?)

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|------|---|-------|----------------------|
| ii. | Agreed that a revised seeding plan would be posted at site entrance gate. | Chris | 11 th Mar |
| iii. | Agreed to allow individual plot holders to seed their paths in agreement with those other plot holders affected by the 10 week closure of a path while the seed germinates and takes root. | | |
| iv. | After much debate it was reluctantly agreed (with one abstention) that it was necessary to extend the hard standing from the road entrance right through to the deer fencing and to 4 metres to either side of the 5 metre wide access route. This work being necessary to: | | |
| | ➤ Ensure safe and speedy access for an emergency vehicle; | | |
| | ➤ Reduce the likelihood of plot holders parking in Marsh Lane to avoid the muddy and slippery access area. | | |
| v. | Geoff to update HAHA FGA team with this decision and draft letter to HTC to be circulated to whole HAHA Committee for comment | Geoff | asap |

- before sending to HTC .
- vi. Agreed to hire digger from A4 (via Tony) and ask Andy to drive the digger for weekend of 12th/13th March. Geoff to arrange with Tony and Andy. Derek to provide scrap banners as underlay. Trevor to be asked for loan of the whacker. Also agreed to try to:
- Place scalplings in front of IBCs and Container.
 - Spread topsoil in low points of main drive and easterly communal area.
- e) Container
- i. Boot scraper has been made and is ready for use.
 - ii. Combination lock to be purchased for the caged area, which will contain petrol, grass seed, weed killer etc, as well as materials for sale.
- f) Communal Area
- i. Tony to be asked to present on the “vision” for this area and a programme of social activities. All Committee members to offer their suggestions.
 - ii. David Liddiard is trying to acquire cow cabbage plants for a Haha competition.
- (Post Meeting Note:** Hungerford in Bloom is to be held on 16th July. Bob Pullen and Tony Lavers have been asked to judge the allotments section).
- g) Compensation Water
- i. Work is on programme to complete by 31st March. Geoff 31st Mar
 - ii. Agreed that all four IBCs should be available for storage this year and so the cost of the inter-connecting feed/drain pipework should be borne by 2011/2012 budget.
 - iii. Agreed that a portable cooking timer should be used to “control the pump operator” rather than a more expensive device to directly control the pump. Geoff 31st Mar
 - iv. Geoff thanked John for his significant contributions to the work to date.
 - v. Geoff to provide operational guidance notes and training for the safe operation of the generator and pump. Geoff 31st Mar
- 6 Agree Any Changes to 2010/11 Budget.
- Agreed to fund hard standing work (cost £120) out of 2010/2011 budget. Also other minor changes. Ted 6th April
- 7 Agree 2011/12 Budget
- a) After significant debate it was agreed that completion of the water scheme should take first priority on the 2011/12 budget. In consequence the two major spend items were agreed as:
 - Water - £1,057
 - Ground works etc - £1,195
 - b) Ted to assemble 2011/12 budget figures for next ML meeting and then for submission to full Haha meeting for approval. Ted 6th April
 - c) Once we have secured ML income we will revisit the spending plans and identify further spending priorities and what else we can afford to do. Ted 30th May

- 8 Winter working parties:
Postponed until the April HAHA ML meeting.
- 9 United HAHA Committee
- a) Geoff covered the main changes proposed to the HAHA Constitution which are intended to make HAHA a united and effective association, acting through its management committee. The principle changes are:
- Adding a set of Financial Principles to improve clarity on financial affairs and accountabilities, including definition of HAHA's financial year.
 - Providing the ability to create a reserve fund, over time, to meet financial demands greater than an annual budget could readily afford.
 - Enabling social funds to be kept separate from HAHA funds.
 - Using signage to publicly own HAHA's management accountability and publicise how to apply for plots.
 - Limiting our commitment to publicise a newsletter.
 - Requiring that HAHA membership is held by all main committee and site committee members.
 - Clarifying the voting rights – hopefully!
 - Formalising the role of Assistant Treasurer.
 - Aligning management committee rules with discrimination legislation.
 - Improving clarity of decisions so as to support shared accountabilities.
 - Permitting expulsion of any member who is persistently in breach of the Constitution.
- b) Agreed to modify the Constitution so as to limit the ML holding of any one household to 6 poles and to ask HAHA FGA for their limitation requirements for FGA. (New 4.1 (h)). Otherwise the proposed changes won broad support in principle.
- 10 Date, time and location of next meeting
- Tuesday 5th April at the Croft Club - starting at 7.30 pm.
- Geoff 8th
 March
- ALL n/a