

The Hungerford Allotments Holders Association
Annual General Meeting – 4th July 2017
Marsh Lane & Fairfields
British Legion Hungerford Hungerford – 7.30pm

Present: , Lucy Doming, Jonathan Walklet, Dave Clement, Jamie Hieatt, Belinda Robinson, Kerry Taylor
Maurice Elliott, Neal Pike, Richard Dolton, Derek Loft, Peter Harries, Jenny Alford, Ted Angell, Ann Prestoe
Tessa Brown, Andy Downs, Andrew Sladen, Geoff Greenland, Tony Lavers, Zoe Coleman, Alfie, Forbes Stephenson

Apologies: Graham Croft, Irene Martin, Bonnie Hildred, Robert James, Alison Russell, Ron Jones, Martin Crane, Gill Rowlands, Martyn Bright

Approval of AGM 2016 Minutes

Proposed – Derek Loft - Seconded – Tony Lavers

Matters Arising

Covered in the Annual Review

Treasurers Report

Copies of the Independently Examined Accounts circulated
Income and Expenditure account
Reduction of Income due to the uncertainty of The Marsh Lane site, compared to the previous year
our Allotment rental income was reduced by £700
Overall there was a reduction of Income of about £1000 but this was offset by a reduction our expenditure
by good management of our expenses.
We have maintained our Reserves to start this new 5 year period at Marsh Lane
Our Community Bank Account held at Barclays Bank – Total Assets £2121 Liabilities of £266
Net Assets of £1854
Accounts approved by Independent examination by Hungerford Town Council Auditors
The profit from the manure comes under Community Fund Raising
The cost of our accounts being examined is £ 87

Approval of the Accounts – Proposed – Belinda Robinson - Seconded Jamie Hieatt

Thanks to Ted for all his efforts - Applause

Annual Review of Head of Agreement

We are a self managed site and are responsible for managing Marsh Lane and Fairfields sites on behalf of Hungerford Town Council.

Our income comes from plot rentals and fund raising, so we have control over our income.

The control between us and the council is called The Heads of Agreement it requires that once a year the parties review it to see if it is still fit for purpose.

Are we doing what we said we would do and are the council doing what they should do?

To date we have saved the rate payers about £35,000 which is a combination of the labours that we put in managing the site , managing the register, the web site etc. HAHA is able to acquire grants the council is not, so we are doing what we have been asked to do.

We welcome the new 5 year lease which is currently being negotiated and will terminate on 31st January 2023.

The common sense approach offered these benefits :- notice of termination by the landowner must be given no later than the 31st January in any calendar year. This means when we pay our rent on 1st February each year will know whether or not we have another year after that.

We have learnt that if we are a Temporary Allotment site it offers no constraints on the Developer or Landowner applying for planning permission while the plots continue to be worked.
We need a minimum 5 year lease to acquire a National Lottery grant for the Eco Toilet as the Portaloo at Marsh lane cost us about £700 a year which is about half our disposable income.

We have paid a 5 year ground rent for Fairfields

Fairfields is blighted by a massive Ash tree that could be dangerous. Has the Landowner had a proper survey done of the tree? A quote acquired by Sovereign was in excess of £5000 for cutting back the tree.

HAHA wishes to speed up the Annual rent collection to pay within 4 weeks. Any one who hasn't paid by the end of the third week, their name will go the council and they will be notified if payment is not received by the end of February, they will have abandoned their plot.

Occupancy levels are below our target of 95%. We have a problem with Mare's Tail on some vacant plots.

Grass cutting could be contaminated so grass box on the mower should not be used.

We are applying for a request of £1700 from "Tesco's bags for Help" for promotional material.

The Meeting formally endorses the Report – Proposed – Tony Lavers - Seconded – Richard Dolton

Hungerford in Bloom

All of Fairfields has entered.

Election of Committee

Nomination of Geoff Greenland as Chairman – Proposed – Ted Angell – Seconded – Kerry Taylor

Deputy Chairman – Tony Lavers – Proposed – Geoff Greenland – Seconded – Belinda Robinson

Treasurer – Andrew Downs – Proposed – Ted Angell – Seconded – Derek Loft

Assistant Treasurer – Zoe Coleman – Proposed – Belinda Robinson – Seconded – Tony Lavers

Secretary – Forbes Stephenson – Proposed – Geoff Greenland – Seconded – Zoe Coleman

Assistant Secretary – Belinda Robinson – Proposed – Tony Lavers – Seconded – Zoe Coleman

Seed Secretary – Derek loft- Proposed – Belinda Robinson – Seconded – Geoff Greenland

New Committee members – Richard Dolton, Neal Pike and Alfie

Date of Next Meeting - 01/08/17 - 8.00pm British Legion

Any other Business

Authorised HAHA Signatories for the bank account – Current three signatories – Geoff Greenland, Tony Lavers and Ted Angell

Proposal that Andrew Downs replaces Ted Angell as the new signatory.

The water supply that was at Fairfields had been severed as part of the new development.

A request has been made at this meeting by Fairfield plot holders for a new supply of water.

HAHA will contact HTC on this matter.