

## Marsh Lane Site Meeting

27<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at the Hungerford Club

Start 7:30 pm

**Present:** Tony Drewer-Trump (Chair), Belinda Robinson (minutes), Ted Angell, Paul Whitbread, John Stanley

**Apologies:** Forbes Stephenson

- Minutes of last meeting were agreed
- Actions from previous:
  - Paul: cultivation letters – done, *see below*
  - John: pedestrian gate replacement – *to do*
  - Belinda: reminder email re closing gates – done, *see below*
  - John: water leak – *to do* (new year)
  - Belinda: email re clean troughs – done
  - Paul: water buckets for troughs – done
  - Derek: Kings Seeds/Seed Night – done, *see below*
  - Tony: Manure supply – *to do*
  - John: On-site toilet – *see below*
  - Tony: Plan for working weekend -done
  - Belinda: Email re working weekend - done

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### Plot/site maintenance

- Responses were received to all but one of the cultivation letters and as a result we have 4 free plots.
  - Plot 24 has had 2 emails with no response. One more then pass to the Council
  - Understanding that tenants of Plot 9A & 9B have moved away.  
**Action: Paul to contact Plot 24 and 9A & 9B**
- Container paint is flaking. We should consider re-painting but only when lease extension is confirmed.  
**Action: Tony to chase up HTC**
- The issue of the gates not being locked was emailed. A couple of responders said that they don't know what to do if there are cars in the car park although it appears that no ploholders are on-site.  
**Action: Committee to advise that main gate should be shut but not locked .  
Also padlock should be secured and the code hidden  
Belinda: Email this policy to plot holders**

### Finance

- Ted summarised the finance details. £1160 in credit with some due from HAHA rental.
- Next meeting will be just prior to the issue of the Marsh Lane invoices.

### Water

- The pump has been removed and cleaned for Winter.  
The trough covers have been put in the cage with the generator cover.
- Paul has put buckets by all the troughs to encourage people to use them for cleaning veg, rather than contaminating the trough water.

# HAHA

## Hungerford Allotment Holders Association

- On-site toilet still to be investigated – plans dependent on lease extension.
- Jane Malham (Plot 3) works for Wolseley (Plumb Centre) so may be able to get discounted pricing for pipework, etc.

### Seed Secretary

The seed night went ahead. Not many people turned up (~10) but it was an enjoyable social for those who did attend.

- Tony hasn't been able to get any manure but may be worth considering a delivery from Bill Acworth.

### Lease Renewal

The lease expires in April 2014. There is concern that the lack of an extended lease may cause issues in various areas:

- Taking on new tenants in 2013
- Encouraging good practice on the site
- Investing in infrastructure e.g. water supply
- Grant applications e.g. for on-site toilet
- The Council have apparently contacted Frank Clothier and are awaiting information.  
**Action: Tony to highlight issues to the Council to get the lease renewed as soon as possible**

### Any other business

- Working weekend on 20<sup>th</sup> October went well with barbecued food enjoyed by all the attendees.
  - The hedgerows were cut back all round site, the emergency gate was cleared and the frontage was strimmed. The weather was too wet to burn the cuttings.
- Next working weekend will be in the Spring – to be arranged.

**Action: Committee to deal with cuttings when dry enough to burn**  
**Action: Committee to plan Spring working weekend**

- Network Rail want to use the parking area for working on the railway bridge 8/9 December. They may also want to do more advanced work in the new year. More information will be provided as necessary and ploholders informed if it will impact.

**Action: Tony to advise when more information received**

- Moles are on-site. Discussion ensued on how much of a problem they are. Diane Bright has been looking into the matter and has a mole deterrent on her plot.

**Action: Tony to speak to Diane about her findings**

**Next Meeting: The Hungerford Club, The Croft, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm  
followed by a HAHA meeting.**