

HAHA

Hungerford Allotment Holders Association

Marsh Lane Site Meeting

Thursday 6th September 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, Derek Loft

Apologies to Trevor for not advising of date change

- Minutes of last meeting were not available.
 - Actions from previous to be confirmed
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- Roles of the new committee members were discussed:
 - Paul will deal with the plot register and stewardship of the site (e.g. contacting tenants regarding unworked plots, waiting list and plot allocation)
 - Belinda will deal with communications and education (e.g. highlighting monthly jobs and current advice using email, website, Facebook and noticeboard)

Plot/site maintenance

- Paul and Tony walked round site on Saturday 1st September. 11 ploholders were issued level 1 cultivation letters. No responses received but some plots have been worked as a result.
Paul and other committee member to review in a couple of weeks and then follow-up email/letter as necessary.

Action: Paul to follow-up

- Problems with gates: Issues with gates being left open and also people being locked on site. The 'emergency exit' is overgrown. Agreed that this is no longer needed and a better pedestrian gate should be fitted with a spare key to be stored on-site – probably in the First Aid box.

Action: John to investigate gate replacement

Action: Belinda to add reminder to email about locking gates

Finance

- Ted summarised the finance details. We have suitable funds to put towards a toilet if necessary (see below) and for a replacement pedestrian gate.
Additional funds will likely be needed for repairs and maintenance of the water supply.

Water

- The leak needs to be tracked down. Taps will be added to all the troughs to try to highlight the leak.

Action: John to progress as necessary with the water volunteers

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- Problems continue with people washing veg and/or tools in the North-West trough.
- Discussed the need for buckets to encourage people to think about the water usage.

Action: Belinda to add reminder to email about keeping water clean

Action: Paul will look to obtain buckets from work to be kept by each trough

Seed Secretary

- Derek wasn't present but it was felt that the work involved may make it not worth doing the Kings Seeds/Seed night this year.
- Manure: The general feeling was that providing manure for ploholders was worthwhile, particularly if it can be obtained for the winter. Also worth spending money on the manure to avoid issues of people doing us 'favours'.

Action: Derek to confirm if he wishes to go ahead with Kings Seeds

Action: Tony to investigate manure supply options

Any other business

- On-site toilet: This had been raised and re-raised at AGMs. The lottery has been known to fund a compostable toilet for allotments. There is a need at Marsh Lane and there are a wide range of different types possible, with much information on internet. John will lead the investigation with Belinda and other ploholders (including Jane Malham) forming a sub-committee.

Action: John to investigate with sub-committee

- Working Weekend: General tidying and hedge-cutting. Also tidy-up of weedy area to the east of the carparking area.
 - Agreed date would be 20th October with the work party being led by Tony, with assistance of Trevor if possible.

Action: Tony to sort out tools/plan of action and speak to Trevor

Action: Belinda to add request to email

Next Meeting: The Hungerford Club, The Croft, Tuesday 27th November at 7.30pm followed by a HAHA meeting.