



DRAFT MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday 23rd NOVEMBER 2024

Present

Peter Dennison (Chair)
Anne Tutt (secretary)
Elizabeth Kershaw (Treasurer)
Mark Jones
Liz Jones
Dru Lyle
Donald Henderson
Steve Kershaw
James Palmer
Chris Rigden

Apologies

Les Smith
Seb Ansty
Bev Utteridge

1. The Chairman opened the meeting.
2. The minutes of the AGM held 25/11/2023 were previously agreed by the committee.
3. No actions outstanding from previous AGM.
4. The Chairman presented his report, attached as Appendix 1.
5. The treasurer presented her report, attached as appendix 2.
6. Elizabeth has now formally taken over from James as treasurer. Reserves increased by £34.83, there is also an over-payment on water of £172.11 – however we do foresee possible expenditure in the coming year and are short of our desired reserve sum of £1,500. As such, there will be a small increase of rent to £60 for a plot and £30 for half plot. *(Note: re lease – there is a small chance that rent will increase, which will need to be reflected in fees).*

7. The committee resigned and some were re-elected. There were no new nominations for Chairman so Peter Dennison was re-elected. Anne Tutt stood down as secretary to be replaced by Mark Jones, James fully stood down as treasurer to be replaced by Elizabeth Kershaw. The committee as present comprises:

Peter Dennison (chairman)
Mark Jones (secretary)
Elizabeth Kershaw (treasurer)
Dru Lyle
Seb Ansty (confirmed)

Peter Dintale has said he can't commit at this time, so we still have one further member to seek (All to ask around!)
Chris Rigden will provide a procedural guide for committee election.

8. Regret was expressed for the sad loss of Peter Farrin during the year. His widow, Rita to continue as a member but not on the committee.
9. Thanks to Malcolm for his continued grounds maintenance & rabbit management.
10. The lease renewal remains unsure (subsequent to meeting, Pam has said they will respond in January). Chris Rigden pointed out that landowners are being very cautious on lease renewals due to the recent budget, which may explain the current situation. Pam at the Parish Council has acknowledged that they will find an alternative plot if this doesn't happen.
11. All 2024 rent has been paid. We were reminded that bank transfer is the preferred method of payment. Staged payments can be available on request.
12. Rhi Jones has formally given up plots 14A & 15A. 15A has been taken by Donald Henderson (Who previously had the same plot). 14A had been earmarked for Charles Collins who seems to have gone silent. There are 2 on the waiting list. It wasn't deemed necessary to advertise for members, as the waiting list seems to roll of its own accord.
13. Plot-creep. Plots on the left hand side (1 – 13) are close to the boundary fence. It is essential that the gap between plot & fence remains at 1 meter for maintenance and repair purposes. It was noted that there is 'creep' on other plots & in the car park (due to dumping on the bank), but not seen as a significant problem.
14. There have been reports of both rats & rabbits on the site. Malcolm has been advised on the latter and will act. Rats are inevitable on any rural/agricultural setting but can be discouraged by each plot-holder maintaining their plot in a suitable way. A link has been added to the website (directly from a different association) giving advice on this.
<https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/parks-and-open-spaces/allotments/allotment-guidance/guidelines-discourage-rats-allotment-sites>.

15. Anne highlighted that whilst there had been good cooperation in 2024, it would be ideal if plot holders could become more involved, further creating an allotment community and ensuring the sustainability of KAA into the future
16. Dru pointed out that the entrance to the parking area is severely pitted and would benefit from repairs. James suggested a repair involving hard core & Wackers – this needs to be investigated. (Who / How?)
17. It was noted that the tap part of the water meter has gone missing. Replacement to be sought. (SA / JP)