

Alers Road Leisure Gardens Association Committee Meeting Minutes - 10th April 2022

| Present | Apologies for Absence |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Roy Seymour – Chaired Meeting | Adrian Hawthorne - Chairman |
| Debra Collins – Secretary | Mary Harrison |
| John Hollands - Treasurer | John Young |
| Eddy Haydon | |
| Linda Hartard | |
| Ray Mitchell | |
| Richard Collins | |

| Min | Item | Action |
|------------|---|--------|
| 1.0 | WELCOME | |
| | Adrian Sent apologies for the meeting. Roy Chaired the meeting in Adrian's absence, and welcomed everyone to the meeting | |
| 2.0 | OPEN ACCESS | |
| | None | |
| 3.0 | Notes 03.10.21 | |
| | The minutes written and distributed on the 13 th March 2022 were agreed as a true record. | |
| 4.0 | MATTERS ARISING (NOT COVERED IN AGENDA) | |
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| | CHAIR'S REPORT | |
| | Adrian sent apologies for the meeting and emailed for the following Chair's report to be added to the meeting minutes. "Once again I find myself reiterating the benefits of having an allotment. It has been a godsend to have been able to have the sanctuary and facilities here at Alers Road during Covid. Of course Covid is still very much with us and we should continue to be mindful of others and continue to social distance where possible. Now, even more than before perhaps, we can appreciate not only the health benefits of an allotment, despite the aches and ailments of some of us older folk, but with the war in Ukraine, we are experiencing steep increases in all vegetable produce and whatever we grow for ourselves is good for the environment and our pockets" | |
| 5.0 | TREASURER'S REPORT | |
| | John handed out a printed sheet of the accounts to all committee members present and explained the accounts. If further clarification is needed, please speak to John. The account sheets will be included with the minutes for the records. | |

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| | <p>Accounts are running at a loss due to charges by the council – This is not a concern as will be offset when the rentals are received. Rent going up 4p sq m next year. No problems financially as there is money in the bank £18K+</p> <p>Ray asked if the donation for the use of the mower etc should be increased. John felt not at the moment as he would like to encourage people to use it to keep the site tidy.</p> <p>We currently water rates are being estimated and we have been required to pay in advance. This did balance out last year with approximately £30 difference so did work out ok. We are not able to change the water suppliers.</p> <p>Site maintenance expenditure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • one fence panel following the storm • Servicing 3 strimmers and a mower • Insurance for site renewed <p>Derrick Martin needs to be taken off the bank account as a signatory. It was agreed due to his diagnosis. Committee agreed with the removal and for DC to be added as a signatory.</p> | |
| 6.0 | PLOTS REPORT | |
| | <p>Waiting list is continuing to grow. We now have 17 on the waiting list. This includes 4 current plot holders who are looking for the other half of their plots or neighbouring plots if they become available.</p> <p>Health and safety survey was completed by Ray Mitchell and John Young. 10 plots identified with hazards. Mainly carpet and glass identified. Eddy commented that he does not agree that carpet is a hazard. Ray explained that on some plots, floor covering was very slippery and carpet pieces not flat, therefore a trip hazard. DC explained when showing families around has tripped on pieces that have covered the paths.</p> <p>Cultivation survey will be due this month. Eddy and Richard will carry this out on the 16th April 2022.</p> <p>JH – re Derrick’s plot. A neighbour is going to plant bits for Derrick for this year but Derrick will need to give up the plot by next year.</p> | |
| 7.0 | SITE REPORT | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water was turned on at the end of Marcy as there had been no rain for a while. • 2 tanks need to have ball valves changed. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fence has been replaced that was damaged the storm. | |
| 8.0 | MACHINERY | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All machinery is good, all have been serviced. Mantis cultivator had a problem, the pipe of the fuel tank had come apart. When opened all the parts were brittle, being repaired at the moment. Mower working well. | |
| 9.0 | FEDERATION REPORT | |
| | <p>Has not had a proper meeting for 2 years. John was approached by the Chair and secretary of the Federation. They had a meeting. John was invited to join as secretary to the Federation. He declined but suggested a meeting. Suggested getting the council list of site representatives and encourage involvement. If people do, John would be happy to get involved. If no-one shows then no. The meeting has to be run as a business meeting with minutes and actions.</p> | |
| 10.0 | WEBSITE | |
| | <p>Running okay. Need to encourage people to send through articles etc to be added to the site.</p> | DC |
| 11.0 | ANY OTHER BUSINESS | |
| | <p>- DC shared that the entry for the Ruxley in Bloom competition has been completed.</p> | |
| | Next Meetings | |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12th June 2022 at 10.30am | |