

WELLESBOURNE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2016
AT 7.45PM IN WELLESBOURNE VILLAGE HALL

1. **WELCOME**

The chairman opened the meeting by welcoming all those present, with a special welcome to new members.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Pat Harris & Julia Fielding
Janet Parker
Pete George
Mike & Gill Chislett
Albert Leach
Dave Roach
Paula Kerr
John Abbot

3. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2015**

Copies were circulated and approved.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

N/A so minutes passed.

5. **CHAIRMAN'S DIARY**

Diary was circulated of the previous 12 month's activities. Pete also discussed repairs to site entrance (see item 11)

6. **OFFICER'S REPORTS**

a) Treasurer – Ken Manning

Finance report had been sent to all members with AGM info and copies available in the hall

Currently £4030 in WAA account

£600 increase in total assets

£146 income from seed sale profits via Dobies – only one quarter of members used this service.

Honorarium payment of £20 to secretary approved

QUESTION RAISED – should WAA put some funds into a savings account. This was discussed but not deemed to be viable due to the low interest rates. Also WAA would only benefit if registered as a charity which had previously been explored.

b) Lettings – Brian Jones (presented by Pete Smith)

3 plots re let this month

Currently 4 names on the waiting list

QUESTION RAISED – are those with ¼ plots and wanting to expand given first option on vacant plots

QUESTION RAISED – should only Wellesbourne residents be offered plots

WAA need to ensure all plots are taken and used. Lettings Secretary to ensure all local options are explored to fill vacant plots

Should WAA reach a situation when there are vacant plots and no locals on the waiting list an Extraordinary AGM would be called to discuss further

7. 2016 OPEN DAY

NGS Open day to be take place on Sunday 3 July from 2pm until 5pm

Various stall and activities to be put in place including a tea tent

Entrance fee of £4pp to go to NGS after expenses

Stall and tea tent money to go directly to WAA

The last event was a great success with visitors from far afield attending

8. OPEN DAY PLANNING MEETING

The planning meeting will take place on Wednesday 9 March at The Stags Head at 7.30pm

All those wishing to be part of the organising and running of the event are welcome to attend.

9. SITE CLEAN-UP SUGGESTION

Due to the historical build-up of rubbish on the site a clean-up weekend was suggested

Ken Manning had a very close encounter with a six inch nail which could have caused a nasty injury

Two skips would be made available onsite – one for general waste and one for metal waste

Date to be decided but would be over a weekend.

Pete Maxwell has kindly offered to move metal waste from end of plots to skip with his trailer

A show of hands was given for the go ahead and for WAA to hire the skips at an approximate cost of £300

10. **SECURITY MARKING**

Concerns over security were raised at last year's AGM and as a result, Wendy Nocar kindly arranged for a security marking event on site – unfortunately no-one turned up.

We do now have a supply of security marking equipment in the green shed and Wendy (plot 34d) will be happy to help any plot holders who wish to mark any equipment.

11. **REPAIRS TO ROADWAY**

Pete Smith had a lot of discussion with MV Kelly, who, at one point seemed keen to repair the driveway entrance as a gesture of good will to the village, however, it now seems this will not be the case

New quotes to be collated and discussed

Suggestions were made to wait until the release of the Neighbourhood Plan

In the meantime, Pete Smith will contact local contractors and Warwick District Council to see if at the end of any resurfacing jobs they may be willing to repair the site entrance. A show of hands agreed to this with a limit of £100 payment to the contractor if successful

12. **2015 "Best Kept Allotment"** – presentation of trophy by Pete Smith to Ron Knight who has won for the second year in a row

13. **2015 "Best Newcomer Award"** – this new award, donated by Pete Smith, was presented to Simon Oram for plot 33D

14. **2016 "Best Kept Allotment"**

Proposed to members – all agreed for the competition to go ahead.

Request made that not just the top two plots are listed

15. **ELECTION OF 2016 OFFICERS**

Ken Manning gave a thank you speech on behalf of WAA to Pete and Lin Smith for their hard work over the last three years, for innovating members and with great articles in Wellesbourne and Walton News. They were presented with a set of engraved wine glasses.

Chairman – Chris Wood (only candidate and voted in by a show of hands)

Treasurer – Ken Manning

Secretary – Anne-Marie Ortu

Lettings Secretary – Tracey Claines

Committee Members - Jessica Pinson
Marion Allerton
Di Major
Wendy Nekar
Simon Oram (new member elected)

16. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 22 February 2017

17. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) A plot holders BBQ was suggested and it was agreed it should take place after the Open day while the marquees etc were onsite
- b) Pete Maxwell suggested plot holders helping each other out more – perhaps even paying each other for jobs done on site

It was suggested that if plot holders were unable to tend plots for any length of time (eg due to illness or holidays) that weed cover fabric be used to prevent weed growth and spread. Pete Smith has kindly donated 30m of cover for this use which will be stored in the green shed and used when requested.

- c) Richard Band re-iterated concerns about untidy plots. Any concerns should be brought to the attention of a committee member who will pass the details to the lettings officer. The lettings officer does have letters and procedures to put in place.
- d) Pete Smith gave thanks and a presentation to Steve Parr who was responsible for the initial installation of the water system on site and who has maintained the plumbing since.

18. **RAFFLE**

Thanks to everyone who donated prizes for the raffle. We raised £61 from the raffle and £12.71 from the refreshment donations.