

STREATLEY ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 1st JUNE 2020

The meeting took place via Zoom conferencing, commencing at 7.30pm

In Attendance

Committee members Karen Morton (Acting Chair), Peter Barefield, Harry Beresford, Imogen Smart, Diana Wheatley and Linda Palmer attended with a further 16 plot holders. Apologies for absence were received from the Nicholsons, John Meyer, Sara Winstanley, Richard Beasley and Janet Dutton.

1) Confirmation of the notes of the AGM held on 4/4/2019

The notes of the previous AGM had been circulated prior to this meeting and were agreed and adopted as a true record. They will now be posted on the website.

2) The acting Chair, Karen Morton, welcome all attendees to the meeting.

She introduced the current Committee members explaining the roles of each.

3) Membership Secretary's Report

Harry Beresford had circulated his prior to the meeting. There has only been one change this year as plot 42 was taken over by Jeremy and Hayley Gittins.

20 plots are held by residents of Goring, 16 from Streatley and 1 from Upper Basildon.

There are currently 11 names on the waiting list.

Harry will be stepping down as Membership Secretary after this meeting, to take on the role of Site Manager.

4) Treasurer's Report.

Imogen Smart had circulated her statement of accounts and a detailed financial report prior to the meeting.

The accounts have been approved and thanks were expressed to Louise Schilizzi.

Imogen spoke briefly to explain the differences between the finances in 18/19 and the position in 19/20. In answer to a question from the meeting Imogen explained that the £25 expenditure listed as Plot Fees was a partial refund to a plot holder who has taken on responsibility for common area maintenance.

The Society currently has a healthy cash reserve.

As the AGM was delayed this year due to the pandemic, the Committee had taken the decision to keep plot fees at the same level, rather than wait for approval at the AGM

5) Social Secretary's Report.

Karen Morton spoke to her report which had also been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Society had taken part in a number of events throughout the year, raising the profile of the Society, and providing enjoyment for many.

This years Allotment Supper has provisionally been arranged for September 20th.

6) Site manager's Report

Peter Barefield spoke to his report which had also been circulated to all. No working parties have been needed this past year. The arrangement for Common Area Maintenance by plot holders has been successful. Hedge Trimming is the only maintenance which is outsourced. The gate into Streatley Meadows is likely to need replacement at some future date.

John Ashton asked what was happening about pest control on the site. Peter explained that the contractor had not inspected the site since the start of lockdown, and possibly before that. He has not made any charges. A new contractor will be sought.

7) Report by the Interim Chair:

Karen Morton advised members that she had not formally replaced John Ashton as Chairperson after the last AGM but tasks have been shared and the Committee members work cooperatively. Karen has chaired the actual meetings.

The Committee has been proactive regarding the car parking, the abandoned car, following up the offer of other sites, fundraising and ensuring Covid compliance and security.

9) Nominations for and election of Officers

No nominations have been received.

Karen, Harry and Linda all need to stand down having served for 3 years. All were willing to remain on the Committee and this was agreed. Karen will take the role of Chairperson.

Diana, Joan and Imogen are also willing to continue to serve. Diana will take over as Membership Secretary, Harry will take on Site Management.

All plot holders were urged to consider joining the Committee at some point.

10) Any Other Business:

Tom Wilkinson commented that a lot of the wooden edging to the paths are rotting. He expressed concern that the Society has insufficient reserves to cover such expenses.

Sally Wicks suggested applying to the Goring Gap News for a grant.

The Committee asks all members to get involved in raising funds, especially as this is a good way to get involved without joining the committee.

There was no speaker for this AGM but Hannah Cottrell from Winterbrook Nursery in Wallingford will attend on another occasion.

John Ashton proposed a vote of thanks to the Committee.

Linda Palmer thanked those who had provided seedlings and plants for the fundraising to date.

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