

Chair's Report
Streatley Allotments Society AGM 28th April 2022
10 years of Streatley Allotments!

A big thank you to our terrific committee, Linda, Diana, Imogen, Joan and Jane, who have been wise, active and involved, turned up to meetings and kept everything running.

This year we have been pleased to welcome Cllr Michael Robertson (aka friendly postie) as our representative from Streatley Parish Council.

It's been fortunate our committee has been so committed, because we have managed without a site manager, all year. We have done this by taking it in turns to walk the site and pick up related tasks. This has also given us a format for reporting to the committee, which is proving useful.

But - we would rather have a site manager.

The questionnaire which led to the decision to have yet another AGM on Zoom, also indicated that a number of plot holders would consider joining the committee -but just not right now. Hopefully someone will step forward for this role over the next few months.

We greatly appreciate the time given by those who have supported the working parties. This year we have put new edging on the top path, and re-chipped the lower path. Cakes are as important a contribution as wheelbarrows!

And thank you to those plot holders who maintain the common areas, removing the need to pay an outside contractor from a tight budget.

The committee agendas continue to include rabbits and hedges, and the boundary with the recreation ground, as well as careful consideration of any complaints, generally about diversity of standards. Data protection, fundraising, and wildlife have also been topics.

As Diana mentions in her report, we continue to engage with Goring Parish Council, who we consider have a responsibility to provide allotments now that the waiting list has become so long. We need to decide whether to continue to pursue this.

We are very sorry that Imogen will be leaving the committee at this AGM. Imogen has not only been a brilliant and careful Treasurer. She is extremely knowledgeable about running community groups generally, and rural/environmental groups particularly. We will really miss her, but are greatly relieved that Richard Beasley has kindly stepped forward to take over the Treasurer role.

Finally, we are disappointed not to be meeting in person to celebrate 10 years of the allotments. But hopefully we will be able to raise a glass soon!

Karen Morton, Chair.