

Company number 4672027

Secretary: Debbie Bradley

The Association is registered with the DATA PROTECTION AGENCY

Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Monday 18th February 2019
Held at the Good Shepherd Hall, Kings Drive from 7.45 pm

Present:

Neil Pirie, Chair

Committee members: Brian Styles, Pete Clee, Steve Soffe, Roger Hake, Sarah Rhodes, Chris Styles, Roger Chainey, Phil Hall, Jamie Darke, Rhoda Lock, Sarah Newnes, Phil Hopkins, Tony Jones, Debbie Bradley and approx. 40 members
NOTICE OF THE MEETING HAD BEEN CIRCULATED TO ALL MEMBERS IN THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Tea and coffee before the meeting started were provided by Chris Styles and Rhoda Lock

1. Apologies: Kirstin Whimster, Katharine Alsop, Pete Bill, Kath Sadler, Dominic O'Dwyer, Wendy Hawthorn, Marcus Grant, Vicky Meadows, Les and Callum Meiklejon, Cllr. Eleanor Combley, Cllr Tom Brook

2. Minutes of the 2018 AGM were distributed to all present and were accepted on a proposal by Dick Probert seconded by Tony Jones.

3. Matters arising: None

4. Report from the Chairman on behalf of the Executive Committee: Written and read by Neil Pirie.

- The big event of last year was the Centenary booklet produced by Phil Hopkins, Pete Clee and Jeremy Iles. Copies can be obtained from Pete Clee or borrowed from field reps
- The padlocks on the gates were changed from keys to combinations. They are much cheaper to replace. If there is a need to change the combination members could be informed in the rent letters. A notice will be put on the gates reminding all to scramble the numbers. A new PCSO (Warren Rogers Tel: 07889658278) is going to make evening visits to Golden Hill. Any security concerns should be raised with field reps.
- Roger Chainey, Phil Hall, Brian Styles and Chris Styles are retiring from the Committee. Dominic O'Dwyer and Debbie Bradley have agreed to stand as members.
- HDAA is still in the process of renegotiating its' lease with BCC. The delay is apparently due to staff cuts and low priority.
- The hedging team has been working for 8 years on Golden Hill. Not only has this voluntary work saved HDAA a lot of money, but the hedges are wonderful.
- The solar pump also saves money on water bills.
- A tenant has cleared a previously unused area on Birchall to good effect.
- The Bee Policy aims to ensure that bees are well kept and healthy so limits the number of hives.
- HDAA has a new web site getting about 20 hits a day. Phil Hopkins would welcome contributions of content for it.
- The rent can now be paid electronically by bank transfer.
- The Committee is seeking projects needing capital expenditure. Please give suggestions to field reps.
He then introduced the field reps:
Tony Jones from **Birchall**, Steve Soffe from **Davis**, Jamie Darke and Phil Hall from **Grahams** and **Telecoms**, the Wessex Avenue fields, Guy Hawthorn from **Longs** and Pete Clee from **St Agnes**. All described their fields.

5. Resolutions

Two resolutions had been circulated in the January Newsletter

1. The Committee recommends to the AGM a proposed annual rent increase of 40p per perch per annum for 2021, a further 50p per perch p.a. for 2022 a further 50p per perch p.a. for 2023

Proposer: Christine Styles seconder: Claire Hanson Kahn

The meeting voted unanimously in favour and the resolution was passed.

2. The Committee recommends to the AGM that the annual charges for huts be abolished from 2020 onwards.

Proposer Dick Probert Seconder: Guy Hawthorn

The meeting voted to pass the resolution with one objection

6. Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report

Phil Hopkins thanked Brian Styles for his help in becoming Treasurer and with preparing the accounts.

He spoke to the accounts which were circulated at the meeting. He said that HDAA is currently cash rich but that capital works are coming due.

The accounts were proposed for acceptance by Tony Jones

seconded by Roger Chainey and were accepted by the meeting.

The meeting agreed to reappoint Stone and Co as our auditors on a proposal by Neil Pirie seconded by Roger Chainey.

7. Election of directors: Debbie Bradley and Dominic O'Dwyer were both proposed as directors by Guy Hawthorn seconded by Christine Styles. Both appointments were accepted by the meeting.

8. Community Garden Report:

The report was given by Pete Clee

- The garden has just had its' 8th anniversary – thanks to the wonderful coordinator Lucy and many supportive friends. It depends on events and activities to raise income and there are now toddler groups, after school clubs and SEND days.
- There are plenty of volunteers and they include ex plot holders and young people. So far 20 have gone on to become plot holders and it is hoped that more will do so.
- This formerly dead, waterlogged area has become a hive of activity.
- Lucy has asked for a rota to be put in place to care for the accessible toilet which is now left open so all can use it.
- Pete thanked all those who made a contribution with their rent payments.
- Claire Hanson-Kahn said how amazing it is for a grass roots organization to continue to survive and thrive.

9. BCC Allotments Officer: Janet Hathway promised to progress the lease.

There are c4000 plot holders across the city and 3000 on the waiting list.

BCC has been modernizing and improving accessibility.

People can raise issues via the web site.

Rents will be paid by email from this year.

There is a hosepipe ban on all sites partly due to legionella risk.

The service breaks even

9. Presentation of prizes: The Chair introduced Phyllis Brooks who presented the prizes. Prizes were awarded as follows:

Ted Hill cup (for plot holder making the most progress in the 1st year of tenancy January 2016-2017) was awarded to Christine Churchard of Birchall field.

The Phyllis Brooks award for outstanding service to the Association was awarded to Christine and Brian Styles for all their many years of voluntary work for the Committee as Treasurer and plot manager. They were also given a print by Cath Read.

10. AOB: There was a request for advice on recycling black plastic. A working party will be set up – details will be on the web site.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9 35pm.