

Company number 04672027

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**  
**Monday August 23<sup>rd</sup> 2021 commencing 7.30pm**  
**At B&A Church Hall, 160a Gloucester Rd Bristol BS7 8NT**

**Notice and Agenda for the Meeting were circulated to all H&DAA members via email or post and made available on the website [www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk](http://www.horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk)**

**Present:** Phil Hopkins (in the Chair) and Committee members Steve Soffe, Steve Morgan, Sarah Newns, Tony Jones, Dominic O'Dwyer, Jamie Darke, Helen McCreddie, Debbie Bradley. Cllr Emma Edwards (Bishopston and Ashley Down Ward) attended as an observer. 29 further H&DAA members attended.

**1. Apologies:** Neil Pirie (H&DAA Chair), Pete Clee, Pete Bill, Kath Sadler, Joe Mc Sorley, Kirstin Whimster, Wendy Hawthorn, Phyllis Brooks, Jeremy Iles, Clare Hanson Kahn, Rose Boswell, Mary Dobbins, David Munson, Katharine Alsop, A March, Richard Wardle, Amy Walsh, Chris Irlam, Clare Deering, Hayley Swift, Cllr Phillipa Hulme (Horfield Ward), Cllr Tom Renhard (Horfield Ward)

Phil Hopkins welcomed everyone to the AGM and acknowledged the revised agenda which had been scaled back due to concern about continuing high rates of Covid infection in the city.

Phil noted, in particular, apologies from Neil Pirie (H&DAA Chair) and Pete Clee, (vice Chair) who were both unable to attend this evening, and from Phyllis Brooks who was H&DAA Secretary for many years and remains a committed supporter of the Association.

**2. Minutes of the 2020 AGM** had been previously circulated to all members. These were unanimously accepted on a proposal by Marion Dixon, seconded by Dominic O'Dwyer.

**3. Matters arising:** There were no matters raised.

**4. Report from the Chair on behalf of the Executive Committee:** Presented by Steve Soffe.

The issues covered included:

- The impact of the Covid pandemic on the Association Committee, H&DAA members and the Community Garden at Golden Hill - and the value of allotment gardening during lockdown.
- The establishment of revised procedures including neglect process, complaints and appeals; the review of the Tenancy Agreement and impending introduction of an Equalities policy.
- The continuing debate around bonfires.
- The location of the five allotment fields and the field representatives.
- Current membership numbers
- Plots taken on and vacated. Demand for allotment plots and waiting lists.
- The importance of keeping contact details updated.
- Renovation and maintenance work undertaken on each of the fields
- Plot numbering experiment
- Community Garden update

The full report is available in the Members area of the H&DAA website.

In reply to a question by Marcus Grant, Steve Soffe outlined the incidence of large plots being divided, when vacated.

## 5. Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report

Phil Hopkins (Treasurer) informed the meeting that the accounts show the Association to be in good shape. The plot rentals remain lower than those of Bristol City Council. Income is approximately £14,500 and outgoings approx. £10,500. Overall assets have increased to over £119,000.

The full Accounts and Summary of the Accounts are available in the Members Area of the H&DAA website.

In response to a question from Rob Saunders, Phil outlined capital expenditures in the last year. These include:

- Repair to the haulingway at Golden Hill
- Decking replaced at Golden Hill
- Fencing renewed at Birchall field
- Tree surgery on all sites
- Renewal of some water troughs

Maintenance runs to about £20,000 for the current year. Phil welcomed suggestions from members for capital expenditure. These can be made through [treasurer@horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@horfieldanddistrictallotments.co.uk).

Private companies are no longer required to ask members to vote to accept Accounts. The meeting unanimously agreed to reappoint Stone and Co as auditors, on a vote proposed by Steve Sheldon and seconded by Dennis Hughes.

**6. Election of Directors:** There are currently nine Directors, who are registered at Companies House. Joe Baxter was appointed as a new Director and Neil Pirie, Jamie Darke, Phil Hopkins and Steve Soffe were reappointed as Directors for a further three years on a unanimous vote proposed by Tony Jones and seconded by Dick Probert.

**7. Presentation of prizes:** Prizes were awarded by Phil Hopkins, as follows:

**Best in field Awards** – ( for plot holder(s) making best progress in their first year of tenancy)

- Hayley Swift of Baptist field (Plot 14)
- Melissa Hipkins of Birchall field (Plot 5a)
- Amy Walsh and Chris Irlam of Grahams field (Plot 3a)
- Steve and Susan Morgan of Longs field (Plot 23a)
- Patrick and Sally Adams of St Agnes field. (Plot 35a)

**The Ted Hill Challenge Cup** (for the plot holder(s) making the most progress in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of tenancy across all the fields) was awarded to Simona and Thomas Palmer of Baptist field. (Plot 22)

**The Phyllis Brooks Award** for outstanding contribution to the Association was awarded to Dick Probert of Longs field. Dick thanked the Association for the award and affirmed how proud he is to have been a member for 64 years.

**8. Any Other Business.** None raised.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.20pm.