

FINAL

**Western Wards Allotment Association      2012 AGM Minutes**

Held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2012 in the Victory Hall, Warsash

41 members signed in as present.

Gill Rock welcomed members to the meeting and introduced Bob Hughes, a Warsash allotment tenant who had offered to stand for the vacant position of Chairman. He was proposed by Gill Rock and seconded by Phil Pike. Bob's objectives are to help both the Committee and Members and to unite the Western Wards allotment sites.

**1. ELECTIONS:**

Chairman – Bob Hughes (For – 36, Against – 0, Abstentions – 5)

Treasurer – Phil Pike – Carried

Secretary – Gill Rock – Carried

Trading Hut Manager – John Parsons – Carried

Site Managers – Linda Tomlinson, Gill Rock, Sandra Milam, John Parsons, Ray Baldwin – All carried.

Auditor – Brian Baker

Trustees – Vera Flynn and Richard Bastow

**2. APOLOGIES:**

Apologies were received from Fiona Phelon, Joan & Ted Weager, Richard Elkin, Georgina Spragg, Roy Deal.

**3. MINUTES OF THE 39<sup>TH</sup> AGM:**

Accepted.

**4. MATTERS ARISING:**

None.

**5. HONORARY CHAIRMAN/SECRETARYS' REPORTS:**

Gill reported that Grahame Hayley had resigned as Chairman in March. Committee meetings have not been so well attended as usual. The website is being run by Fiona Phelan, the newsletter by Hazel Oliphant and Richard Bastow is a new Trustee. Efforts to make Hunts Pond Road deer and vandal proof have been successful-thanks to hard work by Keith Johnson. New mowers bought for Warsash and Hunts Pond Road – thanks to Norman Hatch and Keith Thompstone for maintaining our mowers.. The WWAA were well represented in Fareham in Bloom competition.

**6. HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Phil Pike presented the report on finance for the year 2011-2012 ending 30<sup>th</sup> September.

- The general Income and Expenditure account reflects an anticipated overspend to cover the cost of upgrading gates, fencing etc. The cost of keys and locks has been recouped from the deposit on gate keys.
- Rent for the Posbrook site of £500 pa. is set by the Church and is to be reviewed in 2014. Until then this cost will be met by the Allotment Association.
- A shortfall of £211.43 was recorded for shop sales which was due in part to poor weather and the fact that less stock was purchased during this period. However, the accounts are still healthy.

- RHS affiliation fees are not renewed until February 2013 therefore do not appear in the report.
- The Association holds independent bank accounts and is therefore deemed to be exempt from Government or Council control.
- Although no word has been received from the Council, it is expected that the Association will be charged water rates in 2016.
- Concerns at the Hunts Pond Road site relating to deer prevention, such as improved fencing and closing of gates, will need to be discussed with the Site Manager.

The Accounts were agreed, proposed by Mike Thornton and seconded by Hazel Oliphant.

#### **7. HONORARIUMS:**

It was agreed that the Honorarium remain the same at £300 to Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, Trading Hut Manager. The Honorarium of £300 for Equipment Manager would be evenly split between K. Thompstone and N. Hatch. Site Managers' Honoraria would remain as before, at £100 for each person. The new Chairman stated that his Honorarium would be donated to charity.

#### **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

- In Richard Elkin's absence, Gill Rock stated that there were still vacancies for the Warsash Christmas Party.
- A suggestion to keep bees on allotment sites was raised, although concerns around health and safety, responsibilities etc. would need to be discussed more widely with allotment tenants.
- Problems with clogged ditches and flooding are still affecting members at the Hunts Pond Road site. These problems are known to Fareham Borough Council representatives who have agreed to work with the Association to remedy the situation.
- Problems with parking appear to be an issue at most sites. The Chairman agreed to investigate the feasibility of this creating a parking area at the Gate 10 area of the Hunts Pond Road site.
- Gill Rock has approached Fareham Council with regard to raising the height of the outer fence at the Warsash site to prevent vandalism, theft and deer. The issue with providing extra security by replacing the existing gate will be dealt with then. In the meantime it will be necessary to consult with Warsash tenants with regard to providing keys to access the site. It was noted that work will commence on repairing fencing around the perimeter of the site to prevent deer access.
- Hazel Oliphant, who currently produces the newsletter for the Association, requested volunteers who could share information across sites, communicating news items at each site. This information would then be added to the newsletter and website. Interested members to contact Gill Rock.
- In order to reconcile rules that have caused problems in the past, the Chairman proposed to prevent further recurrences by tightening up the constitution and rules of the Association.

The Chairman then thanked everyone for attending the AGM and closed the meeting at 20.45 hrs.