Rowhedge Allotments

AGM meeting

23rd June 2019

Present at meeting; Dave Palmer, Debbie Antoniou, Paul Warner, Mike Pinchbeck, Chris Walpole, Anne Walker, Christian Langlois, Janet Livingstone, Michelle Moorcroft, Ash Moorcroft, Louisa Nicol, Jake Murrells, Penny Sturt, Barb Chaplin, Sarah Spracken, Clyve Tanner, Laura Harvey.

1, Apologies for absences ; Zoe Gibson Hart and Martin Chapman, Tina House and Mandy Carter, Wendy Fransella, Roger Murrells, Mark and Lynn Lewis, Carole and John Heddle, Ceinwen Nokes.

2. Minutes of last AGM agreed true and accepted, Matters Arising – Cadman have agreed with the Parish council to extend the lease for the allotment plot for a further 5 years, suggested to send a thank you letter/email to the Parish Council and Cadmans.

3. Treasurers report (Given by Jake on Rogers behalf) moneys in £1855, inc. subs and plot fees. Moneys out £2340. Inc. Site fees, water, maintenance. Balance in bank £3824, this amount will cover any costs to be incurred as yet.

4. Membership secretary report. Waiting list has 7 people waiting and 2 interested in going onto list. One plot coming up September.

Non maintained plots, there are 6 half plots, these have been given notice to leave.

5. Chairs report. Fantastic news that the lease has been extended. Thank you’s were said to Roger for his hard work as treasurer, to Jake and Penny and Debbie for their various roles. And to Paul for his continued hard work keeping the site in good order and to Clive for helping with this too. Audit on accounts, this needs to be looked into and organised. Thank you to plot holders for the hard work keeping this community rescores going. Also to Chris Walpole for looking after the orchard and maintaining that area.

6. Election of officers, Chair, Treasurer, Membership secretary and secretary stood down.

New Chair – Ash Moorcroft, nominated by Jake, seconded by Dave.

Vice chair – Penny is staying in post

Treasurer – Louisa, nominated by Janet, seconded by Barb

Membership secretary – Barb, nominated by Anne, seconded by Louisa

Secretary – Chris – nominated by Dave, seconded by Jake

Ex officers stood down, new officers too up posts and meeting continued.

7. New officers names to be confirmed assumed new roles

8. Concerns raised by new officers over the state of some allotments agreed a more robust inspection process , explanation provided on the constitutional procedures for allotment inspections with agreement that the communications need to be effective but fair in approach but meet the agree process

9. Discussions over the move to an organic allotment association with a number of attendees supporting this, agreed to find our more information and move forwards for further discussion at the next committee meeting

10. Concerns discussed over the disposing of rubbish issues, it was felt that following discussions this had greatly improved with thanks given to Ash and his family for clearing the rubbish accrued on site

11. Gate left open concerns raised, agreed a new sign to be displayed on the gate plus a reminder sent out to all members on the importance of ensuring if you are the last car leaving the site the gate must secured as on a number of occasions the gate has been left open increasing the risk of intrusion onto the site

12. Dates for the next two meetings agreed and booked with the pub, question over the meeting planned near to Christmas as the room may not be available to be confirmed by Christopher Walpole at the meeting

13. Use of slug baits discussed with a view of agreeing moving this forwards in order to protect our abundance of wildlife on the site with the officers to explore and agree a possible new site policy

Minutes from the extraordinary additional meeting held on the 25th August 2019

Chairman Ash Moorcroft confirmed as chairman elected at the AGM

Treasurer Louisa stood down and handed the position to Debbie Antoniou as supported by the current elected committee

Committee agreed that all future offers of plots will be half plots only with full plots only offered if a full plot allotment holder vacates whereby this would be offered as a full plot

New membership secretary Barbara will ensure the non-cultivated plots are actioned in line with the current agreed process as currently a significant waiting list exists. All agreed the current state of allotments is not satisfactory and urgent action required to improve the cultivation rates of plots

Key deposit has been agreed to be set at £20 to fully cover the cost of replacement keys for the secure storage area

Waste material dumped on plots to be investigated and checks by Chris who will report back asap with the outcomes.