

Shepherd's Hill Allotment Association Committee Meeting Draft Minutes October 27th 2021		
	<p>Present; Juliet Mann, Jill Russell, Garry Doyland, Ian Potts, Annie Griffiths, Jo Sheehan, Stephen Cushnir, Trevor Wyatt. Apologies: Julie Yogasundram, Amy Gardiner Gibson.</p>	
1.	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting: accuracy</u></p> <p>Approved.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Matters arising</u></p> <p>Chicken plot. Ian's had a conversation indicating the tenant has decided to give this up. Ian to follow up. The plot only has 2 poles of cultivable land, the rest is taken up with the chicken structure, which either a new tenant or we would have to arrange to take down.</p> <p>Stephen made contact with the Haringey community coordinator, who attended our last Café at the Barn and talked to a number of committee members and plot holders. Julie maybe discussed follow-up plans with her – we need to check.</p> <p>Julie contacted Haringey re the Japanese Knotweed report. They have the reports, and they are with Alex Fraser. Annabel says she will get back to Julie soon.</p> <p>The issue of bees on plot 11 is ongoing – Julie to update.</p> <p>Post-meeting note from Julie about portaloos: "I have done a bit of work on this, and they are more expensive than I thought. They seem to be about £24 a week. If we are still interested I could do a bit more searching for cheaper options. I also found during my search that you can get ready made composting loo pods for about £1000 which might be worth investigation."</p>	<p>IP</p> <p>JY</p> <p>JY</p>
3.	<p><u>Site inspections</u></p> <p>Of the 8 NCNs issued by Haringey as reported in the last minutes, 6 are deemed to have done sufficient work.</p> <p>There are 5 plots coming up for letting, some imminently and some towards the end of the year.</p> <p>The complex issue of plots being worked by someone other than the tenant was raised... linked to the question of whether we always know who co-workers are... an item for discussion at a future</p>	

	<p>meeting.</p> <p>We assume that Haringey will be resuming site inspections in the Spring.</p>	
4.	<p><u>Trading Shed</u></p> <p>The Shed will be open weekly for a couple more weeks and then fortnightly (except 2nd Jan) until potato weekend.</p> <p>We're unlikely to be able to source enviromesh, but it was suggested that net curtains might be a good alternative. No incinerators available either.</p> <p>Card reader has been a great success.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Maintenance</u></p> <p>Trees</p> <p>Ian had got quotations from Richard the tree surgeon for urgent pruning work required, circulated by email. The committee agreed by email to this expenditure, up to £3k.</p> <p>For the record, Ian's summary of the proposed work is copied here:</p> <p>"There will be two phases to the work. Firstly Richard will tackle trees overhanging from outside the site and shading the plots. I've attached a list of these jobs which will cost £2,100. (attached to these minutes)</p> <p>The second phase concerns pruning the tree along the fence line in Shepherds Hill Gardens. I've allowed £900 this work, though Richard has yet to confirm the price.</p> <p>This is just the start of what is a very big job and will take several seasons to complete and be rather costly.</p> <p>I have spoken several times to Glynnis at CREOS regarding the big oak trees on the playing field fence line. She has emailed Alex Fraser regarding the poor and dangerous state of the oak overhanging Jo's plot 16. As yet there has been no reply. For the moment Glynnis doesn't think it wise to prune it without permission as there might be a TPO on it and the others."</p> <p>Ian reported that Richard hasn't started work yet, but will be doing so shortly. Ian has spoken to the owner of the house behind plot 83 and he is happy for the sycamores to be cut. He is the person who looks after Shepherds Hill Gardens and told Ian they have a working group on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Ian to liaise with them as they may undertake some of the necessary work.</p>	IP

	<p>A few plot holders responded to the item in the last newsletter about tree pruning and have asked for Richard's contact details.</p> <p>Fencing Garry has got four quotes for 150m length of fencing along by the path and playing field. For materials only the quotes ranged from £3,777 – 4,800. The committee agreed it was unrealistic for us to consider doing the installation work ourselves.</p> <p>We agreed the next step is for us to also get some quotes for repairing both the Montenotte Rd and Wood Vale tracks, and then put it all together and send to Haringey, to see what they might be able to contribute.</p>	GD
6.	<p><u>Plans for AGM</u></p> <p>Notices have gone out and with nomination forms put on the website. Jo has written financial report (circulated with the agenda for this meeting) Julie to circulate annual report and plans for year ahead. Jill will host the Zoom meeting. We all need to complete our nomination forms</p>	JY JR All
7.	<p><u>Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask for feedback on Barn events • Volunteers for Plot 15. • Winter Warmer • Dates for diaries • Trading Shed update • Reminder about limiting bonfires 	JR
6.	<p><u>Probationers and lettings</u></p> <p>So far we have let 5 plots this year, plus 2 probationers (but 5 more coming up before the end of the year).</p> <p>In December we need to decide about opening the waiting list – if we do the same as last year we should open it for same number we've let this last calendar year.</p>	
	<p><u>Future plans</u></p> <p>We are raising around £130/month from Barn lunches and coffees.</p> <p>Winter Warmer will be held from 12 – 3.00. Will have as many stalls as possible outside. Annie has gazebo and Gary's too. Jill and Annie will make soup.</p>	

	<p>Ian, Charlie and Annie – bread. Jill will make mulled cider Will ask for cake donations. Annie has lots of preserves. And cider vinegar. And will ask for donations (of this year's preserves!) Reminder no parking that day</p> <p>Need to check with Amy about whether she has a date for the willow weaving workshop.</p>	JR to check with AGG
7.	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>Jo reported that the new account with HSBC is now up and running. Jo circulated a draft financial report for the AGM.</p>	
	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
8.	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>Sat 11th Dec at 3pm in the Barn. Ian to chair. With carols, mulled wine, lateral flow tests (beforehand) and more! Come early for a lesson on lighting the stove from Ian!</p>	

SHEPHERDS HILL ALLOTMENTS. PROPOSED TREE SURGERY

On Saturday morning I'm meeting Richard to finalise the first phase of tree pruning on the site and agree the jobs below.

I have identified six locations where trees are overhanging and shading plots.

Plot 5c.

The huge Ash tree covered in Ivy. Cut Ivy roots at the base of the tree to allow the ivy to die back over time and allow light onto the plots below.

Cost. £100

Plot 21b.

This plot is right in the far corner of the site and rather neglected. The plot is shaded by a very large clump of Hazel trees from the garden of the flats behind.

Cost. £300-350

Plot 28.

There is an old Horse Chestnut tree overhanging the rear of the plot from a garden. Cut back the offending branches.

Cost. £50

Plots 39/40.

Behind both of these plots there are huge Ash and Sycamore trees that are over shading the plots. This is a job for a team of cutters to bring them down to the fence line as its quite a difficult job.

Cost. £700

Plot 42.

This plot has an old but tall Silver Birch growing on the border with plot 43 who has complained that is cut much needed light to this shady part of the site. Richard would simply cut the tree down and cut it into rounds for the stove.

Costs. £250

Plots 79a&b.

These two plots are very close to the Wood Vale gate and are over shadowed by three large Ash trees that are on our site. Cut all trees down to the ground and cut the wood into rounds. Branches would be chipped.

Cost. £650

Total cost of above jobs is: £2100.

I'm holding £900 in reserve for the pruning of trees along the fence line in Shepherds Hill Gardens.