

| <b>Shepherd's Hill Allotment Association<br/>Committee Meeting Minutes<br/>January 31<sup>st</sup> 2023</b> |  |                                  |
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|   | <p><b>Present;</b> Juliet Mann, Jill Russell, Julie Yogasundram, Garry Doyland, Ian Potts,</p> <p><b>Apologies:</b> Jo Sheehan, Trevor Wyatt</p>   |                                  |
| 1.  | <p><b><u>Minutes of last meeting: accuracy</u></b></p> <p>Approved</p>   |                                  |
| 2.  | <p><b><u>Matters arising</u></b></p> <p>Ian will see if he has a number for UK Power Network as they said they'll come and grass the affected area outside the Barn. Annie will contact them.</p>  | IP/AG                            |
| 4.  | <p><b><u>Maintenance</u></b></p> <p>Jill will ask Haringey/Victoria to arrange for the barriers at the Montenotte Rd gate to be removed. The leaking water seems to have stopped and with the warmer weather there is no risk of ice.</p> <p>Garry and Ian cut down the fallen tree overhanging the Wood Vale track.</p> <p>Ian will contact Gordon Blakely from SH Gardens about the pruning of trees along the boundary between SH Gardens and the site.</p> <p>Garry and Ian have replaced three taps on water troughs and have nearly finished fixing the ball cocks and valves. Great work!</p> <p>Garry and Ian plan to cut one more channel/drain across the Wood Vale track.</p> <p>The plan is put some more hardcore along the Montenotte track to fill in a few remaining dips on the track.</p> <p>Another job for the next maintenance working party in March is tidying up outside the Barn.</p> <p>Ian suggested using some bod paving to create a path on the grassy area outside the Barn, which currently gets very wet and muddy. Longer term we might want to consider levelling the area to make it easier to have tables and chairs there.</p> | <p>JR</p> <p>IP</p> <p>IP/GD</p> |
| 5.  | <p><b><u>Site inspections/probationers and lettings</u></b></p>  |                                  |

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|    | <p>There will be a site inspection in April/May. We will include something in the next newsletter to ‘nudge’ tenants to ensure their plots are ‘inspection-ready’.</p> <p>We discussed a couple of ‘hard to let’ plots – plots that have been shown to a number of prospective tenants but for various reasons are hard to let (one has an enormous amount of stuff in the shed that needs clearing).</p> <p>We currently have 7 plots to let.</p> <p>We discussed the request for a boundary change between two plots. We reminded ourselves that our approach is to treat any requests for boundary changes on the particular merits of the particular case, and that approval or rejection of a request does not set a precedent.</p> <p>There was a unanimous decision to reject the request. The original request was based on an over hanging fruit tree shading part of the tenants’ plot but this is easily resolvable by pruning, and indeed the tenants have already undertaken some pruning. Secondly, the upper plot will shortly be relet, but as it is an ‘orchard’ type plot with several fruit trees on it, our worry is that by extending the size of the lower plot the upper one may be considered unviable, especially as the path between the allotments will have to be recreated, reducing the size of the lower plot further.</p> <p>As is our normal procedure with any boundary change requests, we will consult with the Allotment Officer.</p> |    |
| 6. | <p><b><u>Trading Shed</u></b></p> <p>The structural condition of the Trading Shed is getting worse and urgently needs addressing. To apply for lottery funding we will need to demonstrate community consultation and involvement, and a useful first step will be to survey tenants for their views and ideas. Jill will draft some questions to circulate.</p> <p>We need to check how trading shed income and expenditure is recorded in our accounts and whether there have been any changes over time, e.g. how stock is taken into account. Annie to talk with Jo and Liz.</p> <p>The potatoes have arrived. Annie will bag them up and they will be ready for tenants to collect from the Barn on potato day on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 12 – 2pm.</p>  | IP |
| 7. | <p><b><u>Communication</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder about Facebook group</li> </ul>   | JR |

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|     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Haringey invoices being sent any day – check spam folders</li> <li>• Nudge about plots being ‘inspection-ready’</li> <li>• Barn events</li> </ul> <p>We discussed an email from a tenant to include an item in the newsletter for tenants to contact her if they’re interested in joining a whatsapp group to keep an eye on the health of foxes on the site. We agreed to suggest to the tenant that she makes contact with others by word of mouth (which she had already suggested was an alternative option).</p>   |       |
| 8.  | <p><b><u>Barn events and Future plans</u></b></p> <p>The quiz was a great success and there were requests for it to be repeated/a regular event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next café at the Barn: Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Feb (plus bridge at 10.00)</li> <li>• Potato day: Sun 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 12 – 2</li> <li>• Discussion and lunch: Sun 19<sup>th</sup> Feb (Juliet to facilitate discussion on ‘preparing for Spring’)</li> <li>• Art at the Barn: Tues 21<sup>st</sup> Feb, 10.30 – 1.00. Garry has arranged for Phil Hood and artist to trial an art session on charcoal, pencil and paper. This session will be free and we’ll see how it goes.</li> <li>• Maintenance working party: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 10 - 12</li> <li>• Café at the Barn: Wed 8<sup>th</sup> March</li> <li>• Bee talk by Esther and lunch at the Barn: Sun 26<sup>th</sup> March</li> </ul> <p>Hannah Pearce is in touch with the Orchard Project about the possibility of them doing some sort of fruit tree pruning session on site.</p> |       |
| 9.  | <p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <p>A financial report will be brought to next meeting.</p>  |       |
| 10. | <p><b><u>Allotment Forum</u></b></p> <p>Juliet attended a recent meeting. There was a long discussion about co-workers and suggestions for how they might be better monitored.</p>   |       |
| 11. | <p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>There was low take-up of the buddy scheme and Stephen who initiated and managed it has left the committee. We agreed to remove the page about it from the website.</p> <p>Bonfires – we briefly discussed again the issue of how to minimise</p>   | JR/CS |

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|     | <p>them. There was the suggestion that we have a designated area where tenants can put difficult to compost stuff (Ian had identified a possible area near the old chicken plot). Garry suggested that we implement a policy of no bonfires other than on two/three designated days of the year, and these would be managed site bonfires rather than individual plot ones. To be discussed further....</p> |  |
| 12. | <p><b><u>Date of next meeting</u></b></p> <p>Thurs 9<sup>th</sup> March 2pm at the Barn. A volunteer to chair?<br/>[To add to agenda – Spring AGM]</p>  |  |