

Shepherd's Hill Allotment Association Committee Meeting Draft Minutes 3rd January 2024		
	<p>Present; Juliet Mann, Jill Russell, Ian Potts, Garry Doyland, Julie Yogasundram, Jo Sheehan</p> <p>Apologies: Annie Griffiths, Trevor Wyatt, Nevil Yeldiz</p>	
1.	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting: accuracy</u></p> <p>No corrections, minutes approved.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Matters arising</u></p> <p>We agreed that we should keep the idea of following something similar to the Muswell Hill golf course allotments - they have an annual subscription of £5 to be a member of the Association with voting rights - on the table for future discussion. If this was something we wanted to propose, it'd need to be agreed at an AGM.</p> <p>We also agreed to hold over the discussion about how we can encourage more use/opening of the Barn.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Maintenance</u></p> <p>Ian and Garry met with someone at St Giles after the recent spate of vandalism and had a productive discussion about how to make the site more secure. St Giles are going to do some work on their fences. Ian had circulated a quote for reinforcing our fence line by Queens Wood, which we approved (£300).</p> <p>The maintenance team have cut down the Mirabelle and willow on 136 and now have to chip all the branches.</p> <p>Haringey tree team are offering some good quality wood chippings. We will ask for a delivery to Montenotte Rd.</p> <p>We will write formally to those affected by the recent vandalism to their greenhouses to ask if they would like us to submit an insurance claim on their behalf (there is a £50 excess on the policy).</p> <p>Juliet had received a quote from the company her nephew works for for resurfacing the Montenotte Rd track. The quote is £6,500 inc VAT. We need to check that this includes drainage channels. We also need to get one or more other quotes. Will ask Annie if she's asked Tim if he knows anyone.</p>	<p>IP/GD/NY</p> <p>JR</p> <p>JR</p> <p>JM AG</p>

	<p>Ian is going to make a trip to a retailer in Orpington to look at which is the best solar panel kit to meet our needs for the Barn. He will then suggest different options for lighting fittings.</p> <p>In December we submitted an application to the North London Community Fund of the North London Waste Authority for £5,000 to establish a communal composting area. We identified the aims as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide Shepherds Hill Allotments with a communal composting area • To produce a plentiful supply of good quality compost for plot-holders to use for food cultivation • To reduce the amount of green waste that is taken off site and ends up either in household brown bins or at the local recycling centre, adding to NLWA's waste management burden • To reduce the burning of green waste on site, and the associated harms of bonfire pollutants <p>We agreed that even if this application is unsuccessful we should still pursue the idea of communal composting, and a first step will be to have further discussion and feedback at the AGM.</p> <p>We discussed maintenance tasks going forward and agreed that it'd be a good idea to have a yearly plan. Garry and Ian to work on this.</p> <p>We agreed that when a new plot comes vacant we need to look at trees on the plot and if possible and funds permitting, undertake necessary tree work before it is let to new tenants. This is one way we can try to keep on top of the problem of overgrown trees. Ian will organise pruning of the bay tree on 103B.</p>	<p>IP</p> <p>IP/GD</p> <p>IP</p>
4.	<p><u>Site inspections/probationers and lettings</u></p> <p>We currently have 5 vacant plots, and let 14 plots in 2023.</p> <p>As in previous years, we will open the waiting list for a short period to allow on approximately the same number of people as plots we let last year. The waiting list will open on 7th January at 12 noon (details on our website).</p> <p>We agreed that a tenant whose co-tenancy is not working should be allowed to apply to go on the waiting list. We will also suggest that he contacts other sites in Haringey and Islington that may have open, shorter waiting lists.</p> <p>The allotment officer had written to a tenant of two plots withdrawing the termination notices sent and stating that the plots will be reviewed again against the cultivation requirements at the</p>	<p>JR</p>

	<p>spring inspection. We will write to the tenant formally acknowledging that the SHA committee is aware of the position.</p> <p>Juliet to talk to Esther to get an update on when the move to the new bee plot will take place.</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>JM</p>
5.	<p><u>Trading shed</u></p> <p>We need to put updated dates of trading shed opening times on the notice board.</p> <p>The plan is still to put in another lottery application for rebuilding the trading shed later in the year. At the same time, we need to think about other options if our application isn't successful.</p>	<p>AG</p>
6.	<p><u>Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No parking at Wood Vale on Tuesday 9th Jan – wood chipping taking place. • Still time to put in potato orders. • Look out for future craft dates. • Advertise Barn Bridge sessions. • 2024 dates for café and Sunday discussions/lunches • Call out for volunteers to help with cakes, lunches etc. and remind that costs are reimbursed. 	<p>JR</p>
7.	<p><u>Barn events and Future plans</u></p> <p>About six came along to the craft afternoon and the plan is to hold another one in the Spring.</p> <p>The wreath making workshop before the winter warmer was very popular, and some beautiful wreaths were made. Our thanks to Mary, Garry and Annie for organising/helping.</p> <p>We'd received an email from Jessica Amery, an Activities Coordinator for residents age 50+ living in Haringey supported housing, asking if we "welcome volunteer helping hands". In principle we would like to support this, but need to find out more about who would support the volunteers. Jill to write back to Jessica suggesting a meeting to discuss how we might work together.</p> <p>2024 dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Café at the Barn – Wed 10th January • Discussion/lunch – Sunday 21st Jan. Preparing for Spring. • Café at the Barn – 14th Feb • Trading shed will be open for refreshments on Potato Day - 	<p>GD</p> <p>JR</p>

	<p>Sunday 11th Feb</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion group and lunch – Sunday 25th Feb. • Café at the Barn - 13th March • Discussion group and lunch – Sunday 24th March <p>Provisional date for AGM - 28th April</p>	
8.	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>Jo reported that we have approx. £18K in the bank of which £2K is the grant for solar panels.</p>	
9.	<p><u>Allotment Forum</u></p> <p>The next meeting is on the 13th Jan, Juliet and Trevor plan to attend. It was suggested that they ask if other sites/Haringey have a policy about trapping animals.</p>	JM/TW
11.	<p><u>AOB</u></p> <p>The allotment officer has provided us with a tenants list which she's asked us to review and provide any updates. Jill, Julie and Juliet to meet to check with their records.</p> <p>Following on from the discussion at our previous meeting about transparency and being accessible and welcoming as a committee, we agreed to put up notices with our names and pictures outside and in the trading shed, and also in the Barn, and on the website. All to send photos of ourselves to Ian.</p>	JR/JY/JM All/IP
12.	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u></p> <p>6th Feb 2pm. Julie to chair.</p>	