

Shepherd's Hill Allotment Association Committee Meeting Draft Minutes 5th March 2024		
	<p>Present; Juliet Mann, Jill Russell, Ian Potts, Garry Doyland, Annie Griffiths, Nevil Yeldiz, Julie Yogasundram</p> <p>Apologies: Trevor Wyatt, Jo Sheehan,</p>	
1.	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting: accuracy</u></p> <p>Minutes approved.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Matters arising</u></p> <p>None</p>	
3.	<p><u>Maintenance</u></p> <p><u>Solar power project</u> We thanked Ian and Garry for their amazing work in completing the solar power project and giving their time so generously. SHA is very lucky to have their expertise and commitment. Ian reported that the project had gone over budget by approx. £335 due to higher than anticipated installation costs. The committee approved this additional expenditure, and agreed to ask Re-Power Communities if there might be any extra funding to cover this. Ian demonstrated the lights and has produced an instruction sheet to put up on the wall. He suggested that we could maybe get a 12V heater to warm up water for washing up.</p> <p>We will also ask Re-Power Communities about volunteer support they'd previously mentioned, that we could use to help clear brambles etc. from the old bee plot.</p> <p><u>Green waste</u> We had a discussion about the area by the Wood Vale gate which traditionally has been used as an area to leave green waste. Lynn had written into info@ and had discussions with Ian, indicating that she's been trying to cultivate this area with comfrey and other plants to attract bees etc. and wanting it not to be used for green waste.</p> <p>Our plan in the longer term is to use Plot 83 for managing green waste. The Wood Vale gate area has been a good area for green waste, and is in line with the guidance in the recent SINC report to have some non-tended areas to develop into 'wild corners'. One possibility is to develop a dead hedge around the area as a way of using green waste.</p>	<p>JR</p> <p>JR</p>

	<p>Julie to write to Lynn to explain our thinking about green waste areas.</p> <p>Post meeting note: Garry and Ian had a look at both plot 83 and the WV area, and thought that WV is becoming very full and can't take much more green waste until it rots down, therefore they suggest that we should open plot 83 asap to allow that area for composting. Once open we can then put up signs WV is closed for the time being and redirect people to plot 83.</p> <p>Jill reported that our application to North London Waste to develop Plot 83 into a communal composting area was unsuccessful. The feedback was that their main emphasis was on funding initiatives focused on innovations in reducing household waste, rather than allotment waste (although we had tried to make the case of how the latter impacts on the former). We will continue to discuss how we might develop communal composting on site.</p> <p><u>Maintenance tasks 2024</u> Ian and Garry have drawn up a helpful list of maintenance tasks for 2024 (appended). Ian to put an indication of costs against each of the items. We will pick out one or two tasks in the next newsletter to ask if anyone will volunteer to take on organising these tasks.</p> <p><u>Montenotte track</u> Annie had got her contact Julio to quote for the Montenotte track repairs (appended). We need more information about the pros and cons of the two cheaper options, so will ask Julio to come back and go through it again.</p> <p>Post-meeting note: Jill and Annie and Ian met Julio at the allotment and our view is that the most expensive option concreting the track is the most sensible one to go for, as the other two will only last 6-8 years and will need considerable annual maintenance, and will still mean that deliveries are unlikely to be able to get down the track. To discuss at the next meeting. Jill will write to Victoria to see if the Council might be persuaded to contribute any funding.</p> <p><u>Hedging</u> Annie has got 50 small hedging trees from the Woodland Trust, and 100 thin whips hawthorn from London Trust for Conservation Volunteers, which we can use for hedging around the communal plot.</p>	<p>JY</p> <p>IP JR</p> <p>AG</p> <p>JR</p>
4.	<p><u>Site inspections/probationers and lettings</u></p> <p>There is only one plot to let, a 'difficult to let' plot. We agreed to write to people at the top of the waiting list, one by one, working our way down the list, to see if we can get any takers for this plot.</p>	<p>JY/JM</p>

	<p>A new probationer had written in to info@ concerned about the Japanese knotweed on their plot (65B). Haringey had surveyed the JKW on the site a couple of years ago, but all has gone quiet (as has happened on previous occasions). Julie to write to the allotment officer to ask if she can update us on what the Council is doing re. JKW. Julie will write back to the tenants of 65B to reassure them and also send a link to the Haringey JKW collection service.</p>	JY
5.	<p><u>Trading shed</u></p> <p>Deliveries are proving problematic as the supplier is turning up with trucks that cannot get through the gate. Post meeting note: Liz and Annie had to shuttle the delivery in their cars from the gate to trading shed this time.</p> <p>Re. renewing the trading shed – we discussed whether an alternative to a complete rebuild (as in our last lottery application) might be to patch up the existing one. We will talk with Julio about this and get some idea of costs. Post meeting note: Julio discussed various options to ‘patch up’ or completely refurbish – ranging from £4K - £12K approximately. To discuss at next meeting.</p> <p>In the meantime we will put in another lottery application.</p> <p>Garry suggested that in the future, as a way of more outreach activity with our local community, we might consider offering the school a plot.</p>	<p>AG</p> <p>AG/JR</p>
6.	<p><u>Communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder about site inspection • Plant sale advanced notice • Reminder about invoices • Maintenance working party 7th April 11 – 1 • AGM and dates for the diary 	JR
7.	<p><u>Barn events and Future plans</u></p> <p>The WhatsApp group for help with barn events is working well, and has attracted quite a few new helpers. Committee members to manage the offers of help: Jill – April Juliet – May Julie – June</p> <p>Juliet suggested that we hold an art fundraising event at which we could sell (and auction?) Peter’s artwork. Agreed a good idea.</p>	JM

	The AGM is on 28 th April. Jill and Jo to sort out papers etc. All to have a think about someone who could talk at the AGM about communal composting.	JR/JS
8.	Finance Nothing to report.	
9.	Allotment Forum Next one is April 13 th .	
11.	AOB Juliet and Julie and Jill still to fix a date to go through the Colony list and our own databases to check for any updates.	JR/JM/JY
12.	Date of next meeting 23 rd April at 2pm. Chair..?	

Maintenance Work for 2024

Turn on water - check for problems.

Repair of Track at main entrance

Repair of fence at Queens Wood

Improve main path through the site - on going project.

Repair door to Trading Shed

Make compost bins out of pallets for the community garden

Finish pruning old apple trees at Wood Vale gate and on community plot

Empty drainage catchment tank of silt.

Bod paving for track up from the WV car.

Barn maintenance:

Repair guttering at front.

Improve drain at front of the veranda

Improve drainage at the west side of the building – not been right since that area was dug up by the electricity company.

Install guttering at rear of the Barn

Tidy the area over looked by the kitchen window, where all the cement mixer is stored.

Quotes from Julio for Montenotte track

Quote no1

MOT.	£350
Metal reinforcement.	£2,610
Wooden gravo boards.	£460
2x2.	£320
Screws.	£60
Wire for the mesh.	£12
Concrete + pump.	£3,700
Pipes.	£60
Canal for water on the top.	£1,000
Total materials.	£8,572
Labour:	£7,800
Total job:	£16,372

Quote no2

Hard core.	£800
Ballast +cement	£2800
Mesh.	£460
Frame + screws.	£510
Pipes.	£60
Total materials :	£4,630
Labour:	£5,000
Total job:	£9,630

Quote no3 Cheapest way

Hard core.	£600
Landfill pipe.	£360
Membrane.	£160
Shingle.	£600
Ballast+cement.	£1,150
Metal mesh.	£160
Total materials:	£3,030
Labour:	£4,000
Total job:	£7,030