

ROYAL PADDOCKS ALLOTMENTS, HAMPTON WICK

Minutes of the annual meeting of the Management Committee (MC), held on Wednesday 23 November 2022 at The Lion, Hampton Wick

Present:

Councillors: Jim Millard, Robin Brown, Phil Giesler

Plotholder representatives: David Harnden (Plotolders' Committee vice-chair); Karen Saywell (Plotolders' Committee chair), Andrew Stanley (Plotolders' Committee treasurer), Christine Knight, Susan Saunders

1. Apologies: Caroline Wren

Welcome: Karen Saywell welcomed all

2. Election of officers:

Chair: Karen Saywell proposed Christine Knight, seconded by David Harnden.

Vice-chair: Jim Millard proposed Robin Brown, seconded by Karen Saywell

Karen Saywell continued as Secretary

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November 2021: The minutes were confirmed as a true record.

4. Actions arising from the minutes:

There were no actions arising.

5. Plotolders' Committee chairman's annual report:

The report was taken as read. There were no questions arising.

6. Plotolders' Committee Treasurer's annual report: Shared in advance

Andrew gave a brief overview, advising that there had been a surplus of some £7k for the year ending 30th September 2022. The resumption of the Sunday café and other regular events had contributed to this.

Reserves at 30th September 2022 stood at some £32k. Andrew advised that a £10k emergency buffer was maintained and that a 5 year financial plan which includes potential future projects expenditure is reviewed by the Plotolders committee.

The re-valuation of the Seed store building for insurance was explained. Confirming that the current policy covers only the Seed store and not the lock-ups, Andrew advised that he would check the possibility of insuring these additional buildings and bring the topic to the Plotolders Committee.

7. Fixing of rents

Andrew proposed no change to rents, given the healthy reserves.

This was unanimously supported.

8. Overdue rent action

Karen reported that rent for one plot remained unpaid. The plot had repeatedly failed inspection. A proposal to follow the eviction procedure was unanimously supported.

- 9. Date of next annual meeting:** The next annual meeting will be held at 8 pm on Wednesday 22 November 2023, location to be decided nearer the time.

10. AOB

Robin asked how the Waiting list was managed and specifically how the RPA had confidence that those on the list were valid.

Karen advised that the list had been closed when it reached 80+ which indicated a potential 4-5 year wait for those joining. An online exercise had been carried out to re-establish the validity of those on the list, requesting confirmation of address within the catchment area and a continuing wish to be considered for an allotment. This had reduced the waiting list a little, but the current reduced turnover of plots still indicates up to a 4 year wait. The Waiting List remains closed and new contacts are advised that when the list re-opens, it will be advertised on the RPA website.

The Councillors were invited to join the RPA Christmas Café for mulled wine and other fare from 11:00 – 12:30 on Sunday 18th December

There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting.