

# THE MARLOW ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee meeting Wednesday 3rd June 2021 (via Zoom)

Present :- Juliette Chanoir ( Chair), Maren Talbot (Treasurer) Sylvia Miller (Secretary)  
(Committee Members) Denise Bagge, John Stilliard (Minutes), & Richard Harker

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Fred Tillier & Peter Cooper
- 2. Appointment of Minutes Secretary.** -John Stilliard was appointed
- 3. Minutes of last Committee Meeting** This is to be deferred due to absences.
- 4. Treasurers Report** - The treasurer's report was tabled and accepted, the cost of insurance has risen from £167 to £172, which was accepted. Chicken pellets are not available; there is apparently a national shortage of them. We are due some spend on Web costs & there have been donations (£58) for tools which have been donated and given to tenants.
- 5. Vacant Plots** There are no vacant plots and there are 41 people on the waiting list. Plots have been inspected by MTC in April & May and letters were sent out requesting clearance of weeds and long grass & with a level of cultivation, within 28 days. DB asked how many letters were sent out and was told that MTC had not given that information to the Committee. The suggestion was made that tenants could contact Committee members regarding neglected plots that concern them and SM could collate this.
- 6. Membership** – At FP 56 members with a ratio of 51%; HH 90 members the ratio was 67%. Overall ratio per household was 60%, which is good compared with previous years.
- 7. AWP Meeting with MTC** – Agenda points to put forward to MTC are: Current procedures for neglected plots, Situation with the Old Playground area by FP, Fencing at FP, Update on situation for Key Deposit Refunds, FP Woodchip Bay creating a mess by gates.
- 8. Thefts.** DB said that a shed had been broken into at FP but nothing was taken. FT had seen someone at FP take rhubarb from a neglected plot and an email has been sent to the transgressor by MTC. There have been some thefts at HH; the transgressor is suspected but there is lack of proof.
- 9. Events .** - It was agreed in principle that there would be a BBQ at HH but that the date would be decided when the lockdown situation was clearer. Richard Bailey is prepared to do a Dahlia talk in August at FP.
- 10. Triangle.** SM said that 3 groups were using it; however, she is having to clear & cultivate another groups area until they can attend site.
- 11. Newsletter.** SM said that this was being planned and would have an article on companion planting and attracting beneficial insects. She asked that anyone who had any ideas to send her an email
- 12. Woodchip Bay at FP.** - FT has mentioned that there is a repeated mess by the gate from the woodchips delivered and would like comments from other Committee members. JC said when she walked past that area there did not seem to be a mess. SM advised that the woodchips were being swept back but has noticed that there have been small amounts of fresh horse manure left in that area creating a slip hazard.
- 13. Pot swop** A Pot Swop Area at FP was proposed by SM. RH mentioned that there was one at the cemetery as well. It was agreed that there would be a trial for a month and that this would be mentioned in the newsletter with a request for someone to volunteer as a 'pot monitor'.
- 14. Date of next meeting.** It was agreed that the next meeting will be in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of August probably at HH. Date to be determined later.