

THE MARLOW ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee meeting Thursday 7th October 2021@ 15 Claremont Rd.

Present :-Richard Harker (Acting Chair), Maren Talbot (Treasurer) Sylvia Miller (Secretary)
(Committee Members) Denise Bagge, Fred Tillier& Richard Maidment (new member)

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Juliette Chanoir, John Stilliard & Peter Cooper
- 2. Appointment of Minutes Secretary.** SM was appointed
- 3. Minutes of last Committee Meeting** No Comments.
- 4. Treasurers Report** - The treasurer's report was tabled and accepted, the annual payment has been received for discount on seeds orders, a large sum has been donated for 'Give Away' (tools & equipment donated & given to members for a donation), there will be no further supplies of chicken manure pellets or rabbit manure in the foreseeable future.
The bank recently announced that charges will be introduced, therefore, to save costs MAA needs to make substantial changes with bank procedures. MT has carried out extensive research into options & has suggested the best choice is to use online banking & a debit card, which will not incur transaction charges. This means amending the current MAA Rules and Bank Mandate to require one named signatory for financial transactions and a debit card for the Treasurer to use for MAA business. The committee voted unanimous agreement. MT will amend the present rules to accommodate the new requirements & will put the new Rules forward at the AGM for members to cast their votes. Action MT & SM.
- 5. Waiting List, Vacant & Neglected Plots.** RH questioned procedures regarding rubbish left by the previous tenants, SM reported that there are over 40 people on the waiting list those with preferences 17xHH, 9x FP and 7x have no preference.
- 6. AGM** – various options were covered, it was decided that MAA will plan to hold the AGM in the Orchard on Saturday 26th November @ 2.00pm, weather permitting. Furthermore, MAA will again prepare a Year End report to be circulated to all tenants, as with last year this report will invite tenants to supply questions, comments or complaints which will be responded to in the Final Report. Action: SM
- 7. Committee Nominations** –

		<u>Proposers</u>	<u>Seconders</u>
Chair	Juliette Chanoir	Loredana Cornea	Maren Talbot
Treasurer	Maren Talbot	Bill Masser	Bill Kilner-Smith
Secretary	Sylvia Miller	Peter England	Daphne Roberts
Member	Fred Tillier	Neil Garside	Gordon Young
Member	Pete Cooper	Geraldine Rowe	Nick Ricketts
Member	John Stilliard	Peter Mansell	Sylvia Miller
Member	Denise Bagge	Robert Frost	Bernard Carter
Member	Richard Harker	Claire Rowan	Susan Gale
<u>New Member</u>	Richard Maidment	Sylvia Miller	Liz Bunt.
- 8. Triangle** . SM reported that there is a reduced attendance on the Triangle.
- 9. Newsletter.** This will be circulated as soon as possible covering the main points at this meeting.
- 10. Pruning and Care of Trees.** DB has offered to monitor trees at both sites that are in need of pruning & maintenance, specifically those that may be a potential hazard for anyone walking nearby, and will be liaising directly with MTC. Action: DB
- 11. Events & Bonfires.** SM reported that a successful and popular talk on dahlias was carried out, but as yet no BBQ events are planned. RH reported that he has arranged a meeting with MTC to discuss the situation regarding waste removal and bonfires. The Committee will be suggesting the following options for MTC to consider in respect of our request to relax the bonfire ruling:
 - Have one 'all day' bonfire once a year on 5th November at each site for all tenants to contribute to.
 - Have one designated location at each site for bonfires at specific days/times of day during Winter
 - Allow bonfires anywhere on each site but only during the months of January & February
 - Over the winter period tenants can use an incinerator. Action RH
- 12. Date of next meeting.** It was agreed that the next meeting will be 11th January 2022 at the Britannia, SM to enquire and book.
- 13. AOB.** MT The rules will also incorporate specific wording for member to co-opt, and the maximum number of committee members will be increased to 13 with 3x Officers plus up to 10x Ordinary Committee Members: there was a unanimous vote in favour.
RM will draft notices that can be placed around the town promoting The Allotments Sites.
FT complained about the mess left by the woodchip bay, allegedly by those using it. SM will post notices.
FT mentioned continual vandalism with numerous damaged greenhouse windows. SM will investigate.

Authorised by Richard Harker Acting Chair.....22nd November 2021

