

# The Marlow Allotments Association



## Minutes of the Allotments Meeting – 16.09.2024 at 11.30 am, Marlow Donkey

### Attendance:

Chair: Huw Stevenson (HS), Treasurer: Maren Talbot (MT), Secretary: Sylvia Miller (SM),  
Minutes Secretary: John Stilliard (JS), Fred Tillier (FT), Denise Bagge (DB), Ian Brown (IB) & Guest – Harry Ferris (HF))

Apologies: Pete Cooper

Appointment of minutes secretary:- John Stilliard was appointed.

### Matters Arising from the last meeting & AGM

HS said that the minutes from the last meeting are missing from the website and MT that the privacy statement is needed & DB mentioned work on wild life area article there as well. SM mentioned Juliette did not seem to have time to do this & will try to find someone else to take it over preferably a MAA member.

**Action on SM to ask the members if they are able and willing to update the website.** It would be good if we had more than one member able to do this work.

Treasurer's report & Membership Report - The Treasurer's report was tabled and discussed. The report was accepted – the finances looked good. At the end of 2023/24 there were 138 members, vs. 128 the year before.

Waiting lists, vacant & neglected plots – SM said that there were 6 on the waiting list at HH; and 5 at FP. There is 1 vacant plot at FP and 7 at HH but 2 of these are unable to be let due to their state.

Neglected plots, SM said that MTC had inspected the plots and letters had been sent out. She also said that MTC had to be compassionate in the case of things like sickness. DB said that the change in date for the letting of plots was causing problems as people now give them up in April – when the season has already started. HS wanted a figure at FP of neglected plots and FT estimated 10 to 15 at FP, SM advised that MAA should not police neglected plots and DB agreed.

**Action DB to ask MTC to send an email to all plot holders to ask them to ensure their paths are cut regularly and to inform MTC if they wish to give up their plot before April so that new tenants can start the season on time.**

Overhanging Trees & Shrubs - The work that should have been done has not been carried out yet; due in part to the member of MTC leaving. DB is meeting with MTC on 20/9/24 and will discuss with them the situation and try to get it back on track. SM said that the pathway from Berwick Road to HH was badly over grown.

AWP meeting August 2024. We have asked MTC to clear the 2 wildlife areas at FP (By the surgery and the bunker). Community payback will be used and they will use weedkiller. The requested rule change about growing and using drugs on site has been implemented. There is little we can do about badger damage.

Plot numbering, MTC is working on it. All plots will be 5 pole, MTC are trying to find a better material than wood, the work will start early next year – FP will probably be done first. SM advised that we had not yet received the minutes.

Theft – MT said that she had had all her plums stolen. **Action SM to ask MTC to send out an email asking anyone noticing theft or dumping of waste products to report it.** MTC had said that in the event of an alternative Association arising that they would review the criteria of any prospective new association. Parking at the entrance of HH was also discussed.

FT & HS asked if the list of Association Members, by name and plot number only, could be available at each Committee meeting – **Action MT to provide this list.**

Wildlife Habitats and clearance work . This was covered earlier.

End of season Tool stand It was agreed that a review of the tools was needed and that a list of what is available should be made available. Action JS to do this. A sale stand will be done at the next HH plant sale next year. Request for donations will be made at the AGM when the list of what is available will be published.

Clearance work - HS reported that all material had been removed and old sheds can be demolished

AGM. All the nominations have been obtained. The invitation to the AGM will be attached to the newsletter. MT will organise the PA system. Agreed that the seating will be as per the last meeting with the raffle prizes and some second hand tools, will be at the back. A request will be made for 10-15 volunteers and for donations for prizes in the newsletter.

### AOB

SM said that a new tenant with an underlying medical problem had been treated very rudely by another tenant, Committee Members to keep an eye on this. **Action HS to request Robin Teasdill to do another tree pruning demo this Autumn.**

**Meeting closed 12.50**