



Newsletter September 2022

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This year will be the 39th Annual General Meeting for the Marlow Allotments Association, throughout this time the Committee has been supporting members and remains vigilant, we are prepared to oppose any threat to either of the Allotment Sites.

The AGM will be held in the Main Hall at Liston Hall, 7.30pm on Thursday 22nd November. All tenants are urged to attend and, if possible, to arrive in good time to enable a prompt start. Doors will be open from 7.00pm to allow time for registering. Unfortunately, Marlow Town Councillors and Officers will not be able to attend as the only available evening this year clashes with a Council meeting. They are disappointed and send their apologies. The Year End Report 2021, replacing the AGM, was circulated last year & is available on our website. Hard copies will be available on the night, if required.

Please would those unable to attend send apologies to Sylvia, which will be reported at the AGM.

Agenda

1. Introduction and welcome by Chair.	6. Secretary's Report
2. Apologies for absence - Secretary.	7. Treasurer's Report.
3. Message from the Town Mayor	8. Elections to the Committee – Secretary
4. Year End 2021 Report & matters arising - Chair.	9. Amendment to MAA Rules - Chair
5. Review of trees & large shrubs – Denise Bagge	10. Any Other Business - Chair

Incoming Committee

The new Committee will be elected at the AGM. Committee Members can have several roles, but perhaps most importantly is keeping an eye open for matters of concern at both sites and ensuring that the Council is informed. Committee Members attend regular meetings each year to discuss on-going issues plus new ideas & plans for projects and events, they also meet with Marlow Town Council Officers and Councillors periodically to discuss allotment matters.

If a member would like to be part of the New Committee, please contact Sylvia at least 7 days before the AGM, we welcome any new ideas, suggestions and fresh input from a new Committee Member.

The following members would like to stand for election or re-election to the Committee:

	PROPOSER		SECONDER
Officer - Chair:	Huw Stephenson	Ian brown	Kate Marshall
Officer - Treasurer:	Maren Talbot	Guy Greenhouse	Sarah Greenhouse
Officer - Secretary:	Sylvia Miller	Peter England	Daphne Roberts
Committee Member:	Denise Bagge	Robert Frost	Bernard Carter
Committee Member:	Pete Cooper	Geraldine Rowe	Maren Talbot
Committee Member:	John Stilliard	John Holland	Peter Mansell
Committee Member:	Fred Tillier	Neil Garside	Mike Hopper
Committee Member:	Richard Harker	Claire Lugg	Susan Gale

BONFIRES!!!

The Committee attended a meeting with MTC and covered the issue of bonfires onsite. Emphasising the point that it is part of the natural process of burning dried branches etc to create ash, which is then added to the soil, thereby continuing the natural cycle. The Council & the Conservation Committee agreed that fires will be allowed on both sites from 01.11.22 to 31.12.22, but only incinerators can be used, no open fires are allowed. MAA hopes for further discussions regarding future plans in the New Year.

Track damage at Hanging Hill

As most tenants are aware vehicles are allowed onto this site, however, over recent years the quality of the track has deteriorated. This track was originally established many years ago by volunteers on the site. At the request from MAA, the Council are considering covering the cost of repairs to this track in their next budget.

Membership

Attached is the membership form for the New Year (2022 to 2023), the fee of £5.00 per member is unchanged from previous years. Payment can be made either at the AGM, in cash to a Committee Member or by bank transfer, as detailed on the attached form.

Face Book & Web Site

MAA now has a presence on Face Book, in addition to our Website thanks to Juliette, who monitors and updates both of these regularly.

Donated Tools

MAA has accumulated donations of a variety of second-hand tools, these are offered to members in return for a small donation to the Association. This can be either in cash or by bank transfer, bank details are on the attached membership form. Please contact Sylvia.

MAA Events

There were two BBQ events this year in May & July which were both well attended. Another splendid Dahlia talk was held at Foxes Piece on 19th August, with our expert Richard Bailey, easy to follow with invaluable advice & information, in addition a fascinating Orchid talk by Maren Talbot is arranged for 11th October with film slides & practical advice for any poorly plants brought along by guests, plus a seed & plant swap is planned for Spring 2023.

Hanging Hill Speed Limit

Several vehicles are disregarding the Allotment Rules for vehicles to travel at no more than 5 miles per hour. This is only a dirt track, not a standard road, cars travelling at speed will throw stones & debris into the air, which may cause damage to their vehicle, could hit nearby tenants & erode the trackway. MTC have now placed signage to remind tenants of the regulation. For the safety & consideration of others please observe this rule.

Woodchip Bays and Pot Swap Areas

There will be a second woodchip bay constructed in Foxes Piece Site, to be located near the entrance by the flats. Thank you to the volunteers working on this. Please would tenants refrain from leaving broken pots & rubbish by the Pot Swap areas, this just means a volunteer must dispose of the unwanted debris.

Allotment Competitions

There are hopes that MAA will liaise with MTC for the resuming of the Allotments Competitions in coming year and we shall update tenants in Spring 2023.

Newsletters by e-mail

More than 200 tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which means leaves approx. 35 that are delivered by hand.

A big **THANK YOU** to the volunteers who do this. If any tenant on the delivery list would like to receive the newsletter via email, plus periodic updates relating to allotment matters, please send your email address to: marlowallotmentassociation@gmail.com

Seed Scheme

Catalogues and order forms for the National Society Seeds Scheme 2023 are now available. Or members can download their digital catalogue from <https://nsalg.kingsseeds.com/nsalg-catalogue>. Seeds, onions, garlic, potatoes, plants, fruit bushes and trees plus sundries and tools are competitive in price & of high quality, supplied by the Kings Seeds Company. MAA receive a discount from Kings for every order submitted. Orders may be placed **online** at <http://nsalg.kingsseeds.com>.

Please contact Maren Talbot, our Treasurer & Seed Secretary, for registration and instructions, or use the order form supplied with the paper catalogue, obtainable from Committee Members. Orders should be sent to Maren with the cash payment in the envelope provided or by transfer into the MAA bank account.