

# **Newsletter August 2023**

# 40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 - 7pm start

The AGM will be held in The New Hall in the Puggin Rooms, St Peter's Church, the best entrance into this hall is at the rear of the building by the car park, the double doors will be open approx. 6.40pm, the meeting starts 7pm, please ensure that you supply your names to those on the attendance register inside the entrance. Please would those unable to attend send apologies to Sylvia, which will be reported by her at the AGM.

This year will be the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting for the Marlow Allotments Association, throughout this time the Association has been helping & supporting members at both sites, we remain vigilant and are prepared to oppose any threat to either of the Allotment Sites.

Please supply details of any complex questions to be put forward under AOB to Sylvia, in order for the facts to be researched and prepared for the meeting.

## **Agenda**

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

# **Incoming Committee**

The new Committee will be elected at the AGM voted in by the members present. Committee Members can have several roles, but perhaps most importantly is staying aware of any matters for concern at either site, 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 Incoming 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 re-election to the Committee:

| Officer - Chair:     | Huw Stevenson  | PROPOSER<br>lan brown | SECONDER<br>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    | Maren Talbot          | Geraldine Rowe            |
| Committee Member:    | John Stilliard | John Holland          | Sylvia Miller             |
| Committee Member:    | Fred Tillier   | Neil Garside          | Mike Hopper               |
| Committee Member:    | Richard Harker | Susan Gale            | Dee Marshall              |
| Committee Member:    | lan Brown      | Huw Stevenson         | John Stilliard            |

#### **40 Years Celebration**

MAA will offer liquid refreshments, a selection of alcoholic and soft drinks will be available, to enable all guests and members to toast the fact that we have been active in protecting the Allotment Sites for over 40 years.

To ensure adequate supplies, please would those that plan to attend notify Sylvia and how many will be in each group.

### **AGM Raffle**

A raffle will be held with a selection of prizes to choose from, the tickets will be £1.00 each and the proceeds will go the MAA funding.

## **Winter Work Party**

Please contact Sylvia to assist with the Winter Work party on either site which should start in October.

### Hedgehogs

Let us protect our friends, they work hard in removing slugs & snails from our plots, a particular challenge this year, but face many perils. Please ensure that no poisonous or harmful chemicals are used on the plot, as this could be fatal for our little allies in the fight against slugs & snails.

# Membership 2023 to 2024

At the AGM, please pay your membership fee in cash as MAA longer accept cheques.

Attached is the membership form for the New Year (2023 to 2024), 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.

#### **Donated Tools**

MAA has accumulated donations of a variety of second-hand tools, these are offered to members for a small donation to the Association, this can be paid either in cash or by bank transfer.

Please contact Sylvia to arrange to view the selection of available tools.

#### **MAA Events**

The plant stand held at Foxes Piece in May was a huge success & there are plans to repeat this next year. There was a BBQ event in June which was well attended by tenants from both sites.

Another splendid & well attended Dahlia talk was held at Foxes Piece on 20<sup>th</sup> August, by our expert Richard Bailey, who supplies easy to follow and invaluable advice & information.

## **Allotment Competitions**

The Appointed Judges have now visited both sites in June (one of the hottest days of the year) and again this month. Marlow Town Council have details of the winners and will be contacting them prior to the AGM when the names of the winners will be announced and the prizes will be awarded by Councillor David Brown, Marlow Town Mayor.

#### **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.

#### **BONFIRES!!!**

Bonfires are not allowed on the allotment sites. However, as a result of a request from MAA, the Council have agreed a concession to allow bonfires, in incinerators only, from 01.01.24 to 15.02.2024. Please ensure that only dry matter is burned (no wet leaves etc) and no excessive smoke is emitted.

# **Winter Work Party**

Please contact Sylvia to assist with the Winter Work party on either site which should start in October.

# **Newsletters by e-mail**

More than 200 tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which means leaves approx. 20 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 contact Sylvia.

#### **Seed Scheme**

Catalogues and order forms for the National Society Seeds Scheme 2023 are now available, alternatively, members can download their digital catalogue from <a href="https://nsalg.kingsseeds.com/nsalg-catalogue.">https://nsalg.kingsseeds.com/nsalg-catalogue.</a>

Seeds, onions, garlic, potatoes, plants, fruit bushes & trees plus sundries, tools are competitively priced and are of a high quality, all supplied by the Kings Seeds Company. MAA receive a discount from Kings for every order submitted. Orders may be placed online at <a href="http://nsalg.kingsseeds.com">http://nsalg.kingsseeds.com</a>.

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 or at the AGM. Orders should be sent to Maren with the cash payment in the envelope provided or by transfer into the MAA bank account.