

# **Newsletter September 2024**

## 41st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Thursday 7th November 2024 - 7pm start

The AGM will be held in The New Hall in the Pugin 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 would those attending ensure names are given to those on the attendance register inside the entrance.

Anyone wishing to view the minutes from the AGM held last year please contact Sylvia or view on the website. Please would those unable to attend send apologies to Sylvia, which will be reported by her at the AGM. This year will be the 41<sup>st</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 responses prepared for the meeting.

## **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. The Committee attend regular meetings each year to discuss ongoing 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 an MAA 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.

#### **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 small fires, in incinerators only, from 01.11.24 to 15.12.2024 to burn dry garden waste.

Please ensure that only dry matter is burned (no wet leaves etc) and no excessive smoke is emitted. MAA has some incinerators which tenants can use if they wish, please contact Sylvia who is organising a rota.

## Membership 2024 to 2025

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

Attached is the membership form for the New Year (2024 to 2025), the fee of £5.00 per member remains unchanged.

Payment can be made either at the AGM, in cash to a Committee Member or by bank transfer to the MAA bank account: The Marlow Allotments Association, Sort Code: 40 32 19, A/c: 4146 0919.

#### **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.

Any donations towards the prizes will be gratefully received, thank you.

## **Allotment Competitions**

The Appointed Judges have now visited both sites in June and again in August this year, escorted by a Committee Member each time.

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 Marlow Town Mayor or a Councillor.

#### Volunteers at AGM

Volunteers are needed to help with set up of tables and chairs etc. at the AGM, we also have use of sound system which will need to be installed prior to the meeting, please would those able to assist with this contact Sylvia. Thank you

## Wildlife Habitat Area at Foxes Piece

Recently, on 12<sup>th</sup> July, a group of 5 volunteers at Foxes Piece worked hard to remove bindweed and establish an attractive wildlife area. This has now enabled work to begin creating a woven hazel fence, build a log pile and establish wild flowers and other plants.

Keep an eye out for the area which is located near to the Dedmere Road entrance, and please feel free to come along to help at our next session this

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Autumn, all help no matter how small is appreciated.

Any questions please contact Denise or Sylvia.

### **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, which can be paid in cash or by bank transfer.

A small selection will be available at the AGM, alternatively, please contact Sylvia to arrange to view the selection of available tools.

If any tenant has surplus or unwanted tools that can be donated to MAA, please contact Sylvia.

#### **Face Book & Web Site**

In addition to our Website, MAA now has a presence on Face Book, with thanks to Juliette, who set up, monitors and updates these for us.

### **Seed Scheme**

Catalogues and order forms for the National Society Seeds Scheme 2025 are now available, members can download their digital catalogue: <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 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 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:

The Marlow Allotments Association

Sort Code: 40 32 19, Account Number: 4146 0919

#### **MAA Events**

Two plant stands were held this year and both were a huge success. Plus, another splendid & well attended Dahlia talk was held at Foxes Piece on 16<sup>th</sup> August, by our expert Richard Bailey, who, as always, gives easy to follow and invaluable advice & information.

## **Newsletters by e-mail**

Almost 300 tenants now have their Newsletters delivered electronically, which means leaves approx. 12 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.

### **New Committee Members**

Any Association member is welcome to join the Committee and contribute to Allotment matters and decisions regarding both sites.

Please contact any Committee Member for more information.

## Winter Work Party – Plot Marking

Please contact Sylvia to assist with the Winter Work party on both sites this winter, we shall be assisting the Council with the huge task of placing numbered marker posts on each plot, thank you.

#### **Tree Pruning**

Our local tree surgeon Robin, of New Leaf Tree Surgeons, visited both sites in Spring, demonstrating and advising with the pruning, trimming and general maintenance of fruit trees.

This was very beneficial to those that attended and we all appreciated Robin taking the time to do this out of his busy work schedule for us. He plans to repeat this for us later this year.

Please would those that would like to benefit from this contact me, so that we know the level of interest. Thank you

#### **Woodchips**

There now two Woodchip Bays in the Foxes Piece Site, and at Hanging Hill there are four.

Thank you to the volunteers who have organised and constructed these.

The woodchips, which are delivered to the bays on both sites, are available for all tenants to use on their allotment plot. Please note that only one local tree surgeon is authorised to access the sites to deliver these. No unauthorised persons or vehicles are allowed on either site for any deliveries.