

HAA Committee Meeting 5 April 2023 Minutes – Agreed

PRESENT: Don Adams (DA); Rita Drobner (RD); Dan Hackett (DH); Hinchee Hung (HH); Sara Jolly (SJolly); Sally Jones (SJones); Geoff Kembell-Cook (GKC); Maggy Meade-King (MMK); Ann Lloyd (AL)

Meeting Chair: HH

Note-Taker: AL

1 Apologies

None

2 Approval of Minutes of Committee Meeting 13 March 2023

The Minutes were approved.

3 Matters Arising from 13 March Committee Meeting 2023

3A Defibrillator (SJones)

Selected model currently out of stock.

ACTION: Purchase and Instalment in process (SJones)

3B Overshadowing Leylandii (GKC)

GKC has written to View Road householder on behalf of HAA requesting reduction in height of Leylandii trees to provide the affected plots with more light: no response as yet.

ACTION: GKC to pursue

3C Irregular Tenancies (GKC)

ACTION: A list of problem plots to be provided for next meeting.

3D Shop Guidelines (HH, SJolly)

The guidance for Shop volunteers needs some updating.

ACTION: HH to draft revisions to volunteer instructions and share with SJolly and committee.

3E MailChimp (MMK)

ACTION: MMK will take over (from HL) the job of updating email addresses in our MailChimp account.

3F Water Tank Beside O1A

ACTION: This is currently 'over-subscribed'. The best solution is still to be determined, to which end RD has suggested that a request for spare water barrels and dip tanks be an entry in the Spring Newsletter. One tank, for instance, is needed for installation under an existing tap.

Consideration to be given to whether a tank should be installed on the school plot.

Monitoring, generally, of taps, dip tanks etc to continue.

3G HAA Facebook Account (SJones)

SJones confirmed this is in progress.

ACTION: Current account to be revived or new account created.

3H Plant Sale

Date was agreed as Saturday 13 May starting at 2pm.

ACTION: Sue and John (Cakebread) to be consulted by RD.

4 Matters Arising from HAA AGM of 18 March 2023

4A Request for HAA to make Declaration of Climate Emergency

It was noted out that a) Haringey have declared their own such strategy and b) HAA have no powers to control any tenant's behaviour in this regard (beyond adherence to tenancy and local rules) c) no herbicides are stocked in the HAA Shop, and only one "organic recommended" brand of slug pellets. However, it was agreed that HAA continue moves towards a more ecological ethos.

ACTION: The existing "chemical fertilisers" in the Shop will continue to be sold but will not be restocked. Sales of slug pellets will remain under review.

ACTION: All to consider further environmental/ecological suggestions for MMK to include in spring newsletter.

4B Compost Toilet

A compost toilet for use by tenants was suggested. The concept is favourable in principle to many, however HH's experience suggested that installation and maintenance would be difficult. The idea will remain open to future review.

5 Roles for the 2023 Term of Office

The following roles were agreed:

Site Secretary: GKC

Lettings: MMK & SJones (jobshare)

Finance/Treasurer: HH

Chief Probationers' Support: DH

Equipment Hire: HH, RD with GKC as backup

Shed Shop: SJolly, DA

Site Gate Keyholder SJones (stocks available in Shop)

Waiting List Manager: GKC

Website: GKC

Note-taker: AL

Pre-Inspection Advisory Group: GKC, DA, DH, MMK, SJones.

ACTION: GKC to produce list of potentially problematic plots

6 Site Secretary Report (GKC)

6A Invoicing

The extraordinary additional work and stress created by Haringey Debt Management's implementation of the 2023 rental invoices is finally tailing off.

6B Haringey Allotment Forum

GKC asked for a volunteer to attend the quarterly HAF meeting on Saturday 15 April.

7 Shed Shop Report (SJolly)

Everything is running smoothly and there has just been a new general stock delivery. Price rises are imminent.

ACTION: GKC to update Price List based on latest invoice costs.

Payments can only be made in cash or by smartphone app. Credit not available. Committee Members may make shop sales ad hoc when on site.

8 Lettings and Probationers Report (MMK, DH)

The latest batch of probationers have successfully completed their 3-month trial period and will be recommended for tenancy.

9 Finance Report (HH)

HAA have finally received the 2002 Repairs and Maintenance grant from Haringey Council.

10 Equipment Hire Report (HH, RD)

Reminder that as for Shop items, payment for hires should be by cash or online app at the time of hire.

ACTION: New hire dates are needed for advertisement in the spring newsletter.

11 Biodiversity/Environment (RD)

It was noted that water levels were low in the new ponds area. confirmed the water level may look low at the moment but the seasonal depth is OK.

12 Any Other Business

ACTION: All to send info for newsletter to MMK before end of next week.

13 Committee Meeting Dates 2023

Suggested dates (2.30-4.30 Wednesdays) are 10 May, 28 June, 9 August, 20 September, 1 November and 13 December

14 Chair for Next Committee Meeting

This will be SJolly.