

# **Draft Minutes of HAA Committee Meeting 7 November 2022**

**PRESENT:** Rita Drobner (RD); Hinchee Hung (HH); Sally Jones (SJones); Geoff Kemball-Cook (GKC); Maggy Meade-King (MMK)

**Meeting Chair:** RD

**Note-taker:** GKC

## **1. Apologies**

Don Adams (DA); Dan Hackett (DH); Sara Jolly (SJolly); Hilary Laurie (HL); Ann Lloyd (AL)

## **2. Approval of Minutes of 28 September Committee Meeting.**

The Minutes were approved after amendments to items 7, 8 and 9.

## **3. Matters Arising from 28 September Committee Meeting 2022**

### **a) Defibrillator (SJolly):**

SJones reported her research. No mains power is required and the internal battery has a life of approx. 5 years: requirement for frequent and regular checking of operability. It is unlikely we could get grant funding unless the equipment were mounted in an area with public access (i.e. in the street outside the main gate). If mounted by the Shop (best place), cost for purchase by HAA would be between £500-£1500 depending on model and whether we made a mounting case for it ourselves (HH might construct one). We could host a training/familiarisation session at one of our social events or AGM.

**AGREED:** in principle, to purchase a defibrillator

**ACTION:** MMK to follow up by contacting her residence managing agents for information on a model to purchase

### **b) Gate/Padlock**

A new FB2 padlock has been welded to chain by HH and fitted to the pedestrian gate by GKC. The change has been advertised to tenants and a small number of requests for replacement keys dealt with

## **4. Shed Shop written report (SJolly)**

A written report was circulated prior to the meeting.

**AGREED:** that Wednesday lunchtime Shop opening would be suspended until the spring.

**ACTION:** GKC to circulate the change to tenants

**AGREED:** SJolly's back numbers of RSPB magazine to be offered to Highgate Primary School for use of their children in school projects

**ACTION:** SJolly to contact Highgate Primary

**AGREED:** RD's recycled wooden plant labels to be sold in the Shop as a trial

## **5. Site Secretary Report (GKC)**

### **(a) Haringey Parks & Trees Visit**

GKC met with Ian Williams from Haringey Council's Parks and Trees Department to discuss possible reductions to the row of plane trees on our border with Gaskell Road.

### **(b) The Shed Shop**

SJolly and GKC took deliveries of Thompsons' horse manure and Horticultural Supplies (HS), plus more broad beans. Seed potato orders have been received and collated by GKC and the February 2023 order of potatoes, onions and shallots submitted to HS.

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### **(c) Haringey Council Allotment Coordinator**

Haringey have appointed a new Allotments Coordinator, Vicky Stones, to start in November.

### **(d) Haringey Allotment Forum**

GKC has received draft Minutes from the latest October 2022 meeting.

## **6. Lettings and Probationer Report (MMK)**

No new lettings since last meeting in September 2022. One probationer has failed to reach the standard required to be offered a tenancy and the plot will be re-let.

**AGREED:** that at future HAA Committee meetings we could discuss problems with individual tenancies. These discussions or any consequential decisions would not be minuted in a way that could identify tenants.

## **7. Finance and Banking (HH)**

HH reported that we have still not received our 2022 £2K Repairs and Maintenance grant from Haringey.

**ACTION:** GKC to resubmit claim to new Allotment Coordinator

HH also reported that she had been unable to pay our donation to Harington's as yet

**ACTION:** HH to re-try payment

**ACTION:** A stocktake will be performed in late December.

**ACTION:** GKC to provide copies of invoices for 2002 purchases in late November

## **9. Equipment Hire report (HH, RD)**

### **(a) Tool Sharpening Workshop**

This recent event was very successful and will be repeated perhaps quarterly.

### **(b) Scheduled Equipment Hire**

Three tenants took advantage of the recent advertised date to hire equipment.

## **10. BioDiversity Initiatives (RD, MMK)**

Possible modification to the common orchard behind the equipment store were discussed, including a wildlife pond and communal leafmould creation bins.

**ACTION:** Highgate Primary School to be approached by MMK about possibility of a wildlife pond

**ACTION:** RD/HH to construct one or more leafmould bins using leftover wire fencing as frame, possibly with builders' bags inserts.

## **11. Any Other Business**

### **(a) Leylandii in Adjoining Property**

HH reported that efforts to encourage Haringey Council to approach a local resident to request reduction of tall leylandii adjoining the site boundary are continuing

### **(b) New Site Map**

HH offered to investigate creating a new site map which avoids distorting plot sizes and shapes

### **(c) Agroecology Stall**

RD reported that she is holding a stall at a Conway Hall event in the near future, featuring among other things options for preserving allotment produce in different ways.

**AGREED:** HAA would invite RD to host such a stall at one of our spring or summer events

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### **(d) Apple Days**

There was a lot of enthusiasm for the idea of holding organised apple harvesting/processing days in autumn: RD has previously organised such days.

**ACTION:** Revisit this idea next summer and organise perhaps two days, one for early varieties and one for late varieties.

## **12. Future Dates for Meetings in Coming Year**

### **a) Committee Meetings – at 2.30pm in the Shop**

Monday 30 January 2023

Monday 13 March 2023

The date Monday 12 December 2022 has been cancelled in favour of having a committee pub social in mid-December.

**ACTION:** MMK to set up a Doodle poll

### **b) HAA AGM 2023**

Saturday 18 March 2023, 2-4pm at Highgate Primary School

## **13. Chair for Next Committee Meeting (MMK)**