

HAA Committee Meeting 7 July 2018 Minutes

APPROVED

1. Welcome, present and apologies (GKC)

Present:

Jim Greenhill (JG) (Chair)
 Jack Humphrey (JH)
 Graham Laurie (GL)
 Hilary Laurie (HL)
 Maggy Meade-King (MMK)

2. Minutes of meeting of 6 May 2018 approved

3. Matters Arising not elsewhere on Agenda

None

4. Accounts/Finances GL

Accounts have been prepared for the first 6 months to 30 June 2018. They show a considerable improvement in sales revenue and gross profit on the same period in 2017.

5. Site maintenance and security

To be discussed at next meeting.

6. BBQ and Plant Sale on Sunday 8 July

Agreed arrival 10.45 am for 12 noon start. DH and JH will set up the BBQ with help from GL and HL. Sue Cakebread had kindly offered to look after the plant sales.

7. Solar powered lighting/CCTV

GL has spoken to UK Power Networks and prepared the HAA application for an electricity connection. The application is with GKC for completion. The link with and relationship with the container/store to be confirmed.

ACTION GKC

9. Shed shop JG

Stock take carried out end June. More helpers needed to work from time to time with Jim in the shop on Saturday mornings.

10. Site Secretary report GKC

1. Tenancies and Waiting List

There is currently one vacant plot on site (voluntary termination) and 104 (up from 97) entries on the Waiting List with 14 new applications since May 6. People on the list are waiting less than two years (22-23 months) before being offered a viewing.

2. Haringey Council Admin Service & New Full-Time Council Allotment Coordinator

Finally there is news, as of 4 July. The Haringey Allotment Forum Steering Group met Alex Fraser and agreed that the SG should write to the relevant

local councillors to beg/demand that action be taken to get this agreed post filled. This has now been agreed and we have been told that the post should be filled “within three months”. They have also approved the appointment of a short-term, full-time admin assistant to carry out essential paperwork, such as issuing of new tenancy agreements, and this person is now in post.

3. 2018 Repairs & Maintenance Grant

On behalf of the Haringey Allotment Forum Steering Group, GKC produced a revised 2018 R&M allocation for all Haringey sites based on a change in calculation from total plot numbers to total plot acreage (fairer) and an approximately 100% uplift against 2017 (as agreed with HAF some while ago). V4 of this spreadsheet was finally agreed by HAF SG at the end of June and sent to Alex Fraser for implementation. If Haringey implement the payments without argument, the Highgate R&M grant will rise from £966 (2017) to £2,006 in 2018. The rise results from the 75% rise in plot rentals and the creation of a ring-fenced budget for the new Allotment Coordinator.

4. Eco Compost Deliveries

Next delivery booked for Friday October 12, 9-10AM. Five barrow loads only per plot. In response to a complaint from a nearby householder about the smell from the last delivery, GKC spoke to him on 3 July and explained that it is not “animal waste” but produced by London Energy from green waste and used by all of us on our plots.

5. Clearance of Vacant Plots

Following polite approaches from GKC about their absence from the site and the condition of their plots, a number of tenants have voluntarily given up their overgrown plots and these have all been trimmed prior to showing to prospective tenants. All but one have been re-let by MMK.

6. Lanes and Paths

GKC has done lots of mowing around most of the site and trimmed the green edges of the lanes.

7. New Chippings Area

GKC has emailed three tree surgeons for more chippings.

8. Hire of HAA Equipment

The mowers have been hired out several times and the chipper once.

9. Relocation of Superfluous Greenhouse and Shed

GKC canvassed for interest and held a ballot to pass on the extra greenhouse and shed on H5A. The greenhouse has now been relocated to O7A.

10. 2018 Plot Inspections

No news since last meeting. So far the new Allotment Coordinator post has not been filled and will not be until perhaps end September. No information from Haringey as to whether another plan is envisaged.

11. Boundary Fence Down in West Corner

Propped up and still waiting for the householder to repair his fence.

11. Lettings report MMK

Since the last meeting on 6 May plots H1B, H5B, V3, L3B, H4A and L1B have been let. Tenants on plots F1C and M7 have been recommended for full tenancy.

MMK is finding G1B, the small plot behind the BBQ area, difficult to let. It has only 4 poles and shaded, with many fruit trees. Discussed offering it to neighbours on G1A since these plots were originally one.

12. Probationers DH

Nothing to report

13. Newsletter HL

Items to be included: congratulations to successful tenants; news on electricity supply and proposed container/store; delivery dates of compost and chippings; BBQ and plant sale; note from artist-in-residence; collections of surplus fresh produce for sale at Ally Pally market.

14. Website JH

Nothing to report.

15. Manure and compost deliveries DH & GKC

Next delivery of compost: Friday 12 October, 9-10am.

16. Environmental management DH

Nothing to report.

17. AOB

- Siting of water taps discussed. These are for everyone's use and should be on common ground, not on individual plots.
- GL announced that he did not wish to be co-opted to the HAA committee for 2019. He will be happy to continue with the accounting and preparation of the accounts for 2018 and 2019 but would like the committee to identify someone to take over in 2019.

18. Next Committee meeting: Sunday 9 September 2018

JG to chair

Future meetings in 2018:

AGM Thursday 11 October

Committee meeting Sunday 11 November