

Little Moor Allotments Committee Meeting 2 May 2024

Present – Ken F, Lesley G, Chris H, Dorothy R, Tony R, Liz B

Apologies – Sara G

Review of Actions from previous meeting

- Chris emailed the Council for a breakdown of costs re legal/surveyor fees but has had no reply. Will chase.
- Dorothy contacted Zurich re a quote for Employers Liability and was told that LMAA did not need it and that our Public Liability covers volunteers.
- The Committee decided that we would not pursue the offer of coffee grounds from The Café on Newlands Road as they have offered us their coffee grounds but would put in the Newsletter that it was available if interested. **Action - Sara**
- Re a possible volunteer organising an Open Day in August (with the help of a team of people). She is thinking about it. **Action – Chris**
- We have still not heard from HMRC re registration. Chris will chase. Ken will try to register online re Corporation Tax **Action– Chris and Ken**
- Lease – none of the Allotments have had feedback from the council. **ACTION – Chris to continue to pursue.**
- Peter Calver has agreed to take on the role of Building & Structures. His photo needs to go onto the website. **Action – Chris to ask for a photo.**
- Rough Sleepers – We have removed the belongings from the shed where they were sleeping and will dispose.
- Personal Data requests – we need to ensure we have the correct emails and phone numbers of members. To do this we need to confirm that we will act in accordance with the Data Protection Act. **Action - Chris**
- Plot Signage - Tony is continuing to work on this and will do a walk round with Lesley to prioritise. Chris will inform members that they have to use this standard numbered sign, even if they have their own. **Action – Tony, Lesley, Chris**
- Cleaning the Baths needs to be done before the water is turned on. Chris will email members. **Done**

Chair's report

- 2024/25 Rents now all collected - £11,522 in total.

Membership report

- There are 4 people on the waiting list wanting a plot asap. (we have 2 currently available) Others on the list are “on hold” for various reasons.

Secretary's Report

- Fencing issues –
 - The Highways Agency have said that they will not take responsibility for the Ilford Road Boundary. Chris has contacted the Council and is awaiting a response.
 - Fencing round the site is in disrepair. **Action – Tony & Rob will do a survey to establish how many posts & gates need repair /replacing.**
 - The middle gate on the South side should be turned into fencing as it is not used. We cannot do this until the Lease is signed so its on hold till then.
- “Restricted mobility” plots. The sheds need repainting and some of the 4 are rusty/damaged. The Association is responsible for this, so we need to decide whether we maintain them or replace. **Action – Tony will measure and research alternatives.** There was also discussion whether we should reduce the rents for these plots and then treat them as all the others i.e. the plot holder is responsible. We will return to this discussion.
- Drainage – there have been issues across the site. **Action – Chris to speak to Ian to review the Drainage Map**
- Franks demo on the 20/4 was well attended and enjoyed by all 25 people. Chris took a video but its too big to send and post on the website. Chris will screen shot some of the content and write text so that it can be then posted. **Action – Chris, Liz**
- One of the other Allotment Associations has done a Survey to see which Allotments are members of the National Allotment Association and why / why not. It seems that LMAA is the only one not a member. We discussed the benefits, and it was agreed to hold this for now.
- Trading Hut - Jen has pulled together a list of plot holders who will help at the Trading Hut as part of the Sunday Rota. THANK YOU, Jen!

Communications Report

- Apologies that Mark's photo is still on the Website as Building & Structures, but this will be replaced when we have Peter's.

Finance Report

- Current Account - £4779, Savings Account - £ 41,382 earning £41 a month in interest.
- Public liability Insurance is to be renewed in May at £221pa.

Trading Hut Report

- Plant Sales start up on 5/5.
- Oil tank is now repaired, and photos can be taken ready for sale.

Building & Structures Report

- Nothing to report but Chris will email to plot holders reminding them that they need to go through the formal process when considering a new structure. **Action**
– Chris

Matters Arising

- Next Tidy Up Day will be Sunday 2 June.
- Jobs include clearing the Wood chips / tidying raspberry beds and clearing Plot 94 to get it ready for grassing.

Next Meeting

- 30 May at 2pm – either on the Allotment field or at Treherne Rd, depending on the weather