



# Saltersgill Allotment Association

Founded 2014

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Date 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Members

**Annual General Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 10:30 Saltersgill Community Centre and 2016 - 2017 Rent Payment Details**

You will recall that we wrote to you at the beginning of February this year, inviting any member who wished to stand for election to the committee to come forward. I can now tell you that no one came forward. I can only assume that the members are happy with the way your committee is running the site.

**Your Annual General Meeting will take place on the above date at the above time. The meeting will be held at the Saltersgill Community Centre on the corner of Sutton Way and Collin Avenue. I ASK ALL MEMBERS TO TRY AND ATTEND AS WE HAVE MUCH TO DISCUSS.**

We are now coming to the end of our second year of self-management. Much has happened over the last 12 months. I will not bore you with the details of general maintenance of the site and will try to keep this letter as short as possible.

First I can confirm that your rent for a second year in a row is to be reduced. This year's rent is set at £57 for a 250m sq plot, and £28 for a 50 – 100m sq plot. We again anticipate that the Council rents will go up by about 3%, so again the reduction is a significant one.

Second I am happy to advise that we have managed to obtain a grant from Tesco in the sum of £12,000. This money is to be spent on resurfacing the all paths on the site, apart from Central Avenue. We anticipate that this will be complete by the end of June.

Moving on to the site, I hope you will agree with me that it has improved. This year we have, ahead of schedule, acquired the shop. The shop was opened on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and will open ever Saturday and Sunday between 10am and 12 noon during the growing season.

The community compound requires a lot of work, and we have already stated to clean the area and install bins for materials which we need to run the site. We spoke last of our hope to acquire finance for the building of a new community hut. I can tell you that the process is still ongoing and only last month we visited the “Jellystone” project at Grove Hill. Jellystone is a community centre built out of containers. You would not believe what has been achieved. We are working with Middlesbrough College, who were involved with the building Jellystone.

We will continue to seek finance for this project. It is difficult to ask for money without plans. Hopefully with the help of Middlesbrough College we will have a better idea of what we will get for our money.

I am pleased to say that all plots now have a tenant, although some need to be chased up regarding none cultivation. We have a waiting list so tenants who do not cultivate will be asked to leave.

Payment of annual rents is payable to Middlesbrough Council. Payment is due on the 1<sup>st</sup> June and must be paid by the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016.

You can choose one of the following payment methods

- Internet Payment – Via Middlesbrough Council website using link [www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/allotmentpayment](http://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/allotmentpayment)
- Paypoint - All cash payments can be made using any paypoint machine. If you wish to use this method you will need to email [envservices@middlesbrough.gov.uk](mailto:envservices@middlesbrough.gov.uk) or telephone 01642 726001 to request an invoice. **You will be unable to pay without a valid Middlesbrough Council Invoice**
- Credit/Debit Card – If you wish to use this method, please telephone 01642 726001

**PLEASE NOTE THAT PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AT CENTRAL DEPOT, CARGO FLEET LANE, MIDDLESBROUGH**

The Association can only go forward with the help of members. Any suggestions on any aspect of the how the site should progress should be forwarded to a committee member.

We the committee believe the future looks good. We hope you agree

Yours sincerely

Saltersgill Allotment Association

#### **Committee Members**

**Chairman Peter Whelan, Secretary Marvin Adkin, Treasurer Ian Ford.**

**Chris Allen, John Appleby, Philip Gibson, Billy Holdsworth, Keith Lewis,**

**Laurissa Papprell, Sybil Taylor.**