Quarry Road Allotments Association

Minutes of Quarry Road Allotments Association meeting held on Tuesday 10th May 2011 at the Allotment Cabin, 6:30pm **Present:** Committee members; Unal Metti, Helen Wright, Jill Hobson, Don Rutter, Richard Carr, John Chambers, Tim Place, Richard Carr Additional members; Alan plot 14, Fionnula plot 88, Peter plot 86, Judy+Geoff plot 69, Carol plot 71

Apologies: none

- 1. Gate locks Unal is to try and find some user friendly locks to trial. This to be discussed further at next meeting. Gates to be locked every night please.
- Unworked plots following inspection of the site, by committee members, various plot holders are to be contacted and asked to attend next committee meeting.
- 3. Accounts Income-£1969-plot rents

Expenditure- £200- NSALG membership

- £600- Water total for last year
 - £221 used for March this year due to dry conditions
- -£375- Insurance
- -£160- Admin. Costs
- Site rent is also due to SBC

Audited accounts are to be produced from last Oct. to Nov. 2011. Richard Carr is to enquire about this.

Membership to NSALG to be reviewed, Unal to check if we can have a group insurance rather than number of individuals

- 4. Skip update The skip appeared over the Easter Weekend and was soon filled though not only with non-compostable rubbish. This was a free skip provided by SBC and the siting of it was not what was requested by QRAA. Unal to contact the council to discuss this matter. The possibility of another skip was discussed by the committee and a request please for all plot holders try and take as much of their own rubbish home
- 5. Waiting list Unal has the main copy of this. There are now 18 people awaiting a plot.
- 6. A.O.B. Mares Tail problem still applies to the site and the main control seems to be digging it out as much as possible to keep on top of it. In autumn a glyphosate herbicide can be applied. The possibility of buying a petrol strimmer/brush cutter was discussed and Helen is to purchase one to be used by plot holders to keep the site roadways and paths as tidy as possible. This to be loaned out on Sunday mornings, from the allotment cabin, and then to be returned to Helen. In future this can be stored in a steel cabin which the association is hoping to purchase.

Chickens – Alan Oliver, plot 13, has applied to keep chickens and this was agreed by the committee

Steel Cabin- Prices to hire or buy a cabin were discussed and it was agreed to purchase one. 20ft by 8 ft. Judy and Geoff are to find out more information and report back at the next meeting. It would be sited alongside the allotment cabin.

Health and Safety- QRAA are to have a policy with a check list of hazards on site. John Chambers and Unal Metti are going to just check the public spaces on site and not individual plots. Twice yearly inspections will be undertaken, beginning 5th June 2011

Sheds/greenhouses/poly tunnels- Unal wanted clarification on sizes of these and as long as the committee is approached first then the following sizes were agreed previously by the committee and also SBC.

Sheds-12msq, greenhouses-15msq, poly tunnels- 30msq. All heights not above 3m

Trust Status- Unal mentioned about allotments becoming a trust in order to protect them from being built on in the future. More information to be sought on the subject and Unal to invite Phil Dennis, conservative councillor, to attend the next meeting to share information.

Meeting closed 8:40pm

Next meeting will be

Tues. 14th June 2011 6:30pm Allotment Cabin

All members are welcome to attend the meeting.