



Watery Lane Allotment & Leisure Garden Association

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**8th Annual
General
Meeting**

**Thursday 20th October 2016
7.30pm Parish Hall, Joeys Lane, Bilbrook**

Minutes of Meeting

1. Welcome address and opening remarks by the Chairman.

24 members attended the meeting.

2. Apologies Jim Davis, Trevor Williams, Greg Thomson, **Ruth Cook, Linda Tonkin.**

3. Minutes of the previous AGM of 2014 and Matters Arising

The minutes were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Summary Report

Thanks were given to committee members including Kay and Greg for their help and support. Special thanks were also given to non committee members Mick, Alan, Pete and the community service team for their continued help with on-site projects. We continue to have a good working relationship with Maxine Baker at the parish council.

We have 94 full members plus 4 associate members out of 111 plot holders (excluding 3 plot holders have not been on site for months). This makes 88% which is an increase on previous years.

The stream has been inspected lately and evidence has been found of crayfish which shows the stream is in very good condition.

62 tickets were sold for the BBQ. The weather was not kind to us this year and BBQ had to be postponed until the following day. Our thanks also go to Pete Homas at Wergs Garden Centre for his donation of the best kept plot prize, Gavin Williamson for his time for judging the Tallest Sunflower competition, Robert Marshall for his grant of £200 which was used to purchase on-site tools and the local Co-op for their donation of raffle prize.

Chair asked all plot holders to be vigilant on site as we have had an increase in fly tipping and thefts of equipment and produce. The committee is liaising with the Parish Council regarding actions which may be taken to address this.

A First Aid Box has been purchased and is in the small trading shed at the front of the site for use by all plot holders. The committee will ensure it is always stocked with basic items.

We have been approached by St Nicholas Parish Church re sponsorship of a Christmas Tree at their bi-annual celebration on 9th-10th December. Anyone interested in helping to decorate the tree please contact a member of the committee.

A new queen bee has been added to the hive at the rear of the site this year.

5. Treasurer's Summary Report.

John Davis gave an overview of the accounts to the meeting. He also pointed out that copies of the Profit & Loss Account and Balance Sheet were available to view at the rear of the room and offered to answer any individual queries any member may have. Current Account stands at £1087.14 and Maintenance Account £85.07 although most of the money had been allocated to current projects on site.

6. Election of Officers.

Post	Name	Period	Proposer	Seconded
Chairman	Sean Keenan	2016-2018	Dennis Hutchinson	Elaine Turner
Vice-Chairman	Dennis Hutchinson	2016-2018	John Davis	Dennis Banks
Treasurer	John Davis	2015-2017		
Secretary	Dot Banks	2016-2018	Sean Keenan	John Davis
Commercial Officer	Phil Davis	2015-2017		
Minutes Secretary	Elaine Turner	2015-2017	John Davis	Dennis Banks

Support Officers	Name	Period	Proposer	Seconded
Site Support Officer	Dennis Banks	2016-2018	Diane Fellows	Trevor Williams
Membership Officer	Ian Thornton	2016-2018	Dennis Hutchinson	John Davis
	Diane Fellows	2015-2017		
	Carol Waddison	2016-2017	John Davis	Elaine Turner
	Trevor Williams	2016-2017	Elaine Turner	Dot Banks

7. 2016 Cup Winners

Best Plot	-	Mr & Mrs Davis Plot 41
Best Newcomer Plot	-	Karen Riley
Tallest Sunflower	-	Rosie Sayers
Heaviest Cucurbit	-	Dennis Hutchinson
Longest Runner Bean	-	Jack Riley
Stone Painting	-	Arun & Lara

8. Review of Membership Subscription

This will be reviewed by the new committee

9. Compost and manure

One load of soil improver has been delivered with another being ordered in the Spring. Each paid up member is entitled to 10 wheelbarrows. Bark chippings, horse manure and soot (eelworm and clubroot prevention) is also available on site.

10. Green Flag Award

We have once again been awarded the Green Flag Award for the 3rd Year by the Keep Britain Tidy management team. This is the quality mark for parks and green spaces and reflects the continued improvements on site made by Dennis Banks and his team.

11. Trading Shed

Sales have been in excess of £500 this year, on which a profit of £117 has been made. This has been used to support on-site projects. Phil asked anyone who wishes committee to purchase additions items for the shed to contact a committee member.

In addition, Dennis Banks has donated over £1000 from the sale of plants and seedlings all of which has been spent on on-site projects. Once again many thanks for a wonderful amount Dennis.

Sean is once again organising the Kings Seeds order which will be sent in mid November. This year we are hoping to get over £175 of orders in order to claim a 50% discount for plot holders. Anyone requiring a catalogue please see a committee member.

12. Project Update

All the paths and re-surfacing of the main car park have now been completed. A polytunnel has been donated to the site by Pete Homas and a team are working to re-site and equip it at the front of the site. Benches will be added and the facility can be used by any plot holder once work is complete. The funds for this have already been secured and work has already been commenced. Additional projects for next year include the re-surfacing of the top car park.

13. BBQ Planning and timetabling

Those present agreed to continue to hold the BBQ on first Saturday in September 2017. Communication method for notifying members of any further postponement will be agreed by new committee.

14. Any Other Business

- a) It
- b) A formal Notice was suggested for surplus produce at the front of the site. This will be organised by Dennis Hutchinson.

- c) Ian Thornton suggested a communal bonfire onsite but after discussion it was agreed that potential Health and Safety problems were too great. A vote was taken and the suggestion was not adopted.

15. Tea, Coffee and biscuits

16. Raffle Draw

£29.00 was raised plus £3.00 from Kay's cards not sold at BBQ. Many thanks to all who donated prizes/cards.

17. Closing address by new Chairperson

Sean informed members of new research regarding the use of 2 x 300mcg of aspirin in a gallon of water to prevent potato blight. Plants should be sprayed every 3 weeks from April to August. It was agreed to trial the new method on site. All those taking part need to inform Sean (new Chair) of results please. It may also help against club root.

The meeting closed at 20.20