

DRAFT

PITSTONE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

AGM

Wednesday 25th June 2014 7.30 pm

Ivinghoe Town Hall

Present: Cllr Annie Stack- Chair

Cllr Brian Brooks- Vice Chair

Marjory Rankin- Secretary

David Lee- Site Manager

Jane Pearce- Treasurer

Gill Lloyd

Maria Lashley

John Lowe

16 Allotment Tenants

1. Welcome

Annie Stack welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Annual Review.

Annie Stack summarised the past year which has been successful. However, there were a number of produce thefts last summer. The hedge has grown and will need a trim in places. A 4th water trough has been installed at the end of the car park at a cost of £700.

The Parish Council has moved the earth mounds and 4 new plots have been created. We now have 73 plots and 53 tenants and we have no vacant plots and there is no one waiting for a plot.

We had a problem with vandals on the site terrorising the chickens. Some youngsters were spoken to and the incident has not re-occurred.

John Lowe and Bob Saintey have been responsible for strimming and mowing the edges and paths.

3. Accounts

Jane Pearce reported on her last accounts as she will step down from the position of Treasurer.

Last year the Parish Council allowed us to keep £6.50 of the subscription which meant that we could cover our base costs.

A deer alarm was replaced and an additional water tank installed.

SW Counties Allotment Association provided individual Public Liability cover for tenants which was taken out on March 18th.

There is currently a balance of £1171 in the PAA bank account.

4. Site Manager

David Lee said that this was the 5th year of operations and the site looks good. The hot summer last year and the wet winter gave some problems, the track had to be closed for some time. He commented that more plots are using raised beds. He has carried out 2 Health and Safety audits: there had been 3 incidents of glass on the site one of which was a case of glass dumping. He has replaced the valve in one of the water tanks and has drained and cleaned all the tanks. He would like to thank Bob Saintey, John Lowe and John Stack for their work in helping to keep the site tidy.

5. Election of Officers

Annie Stack was proposed by Marjory Rankin and unanimously elected as Chair

Brian Brooks was elected as Vice Chair

Jackie Woodhead was elected as Treasurer

Marjory Rankin was elected Secretary

David Lee was elected Site Manager.

Maria Lashley regretfully resigned from the committee

6. Fund Raising

Party in the Park would be held on July 12th and the Allotment Association would have a stall again. All the tenants would be asked for small contributions of produce and home made jams etc. Gill Lloyd would be in charge of second hand gardening books.

7. Questions from the Floor

Q. Can we have bonfires?

A. No, the National Trust has a rule against them.

Thanks was given for the extra water tank.

Bob Saintey said that the hedge needs cutting. David Lee said he had advice from a hedge expert and in a few years we may try to arrange for some hedge laying but we would trim it this year. Annie thought it should be about 5 foot high. Gill Lloyd asked if it was alright to put grass clippings at the base of the hedge? This is permitted.

Annie recommended the Allotment Shop at Dagnall. It is open on Sundays and sells everything. Its prices are very reasonable.

8. AOB

Nothing to report.