

PITSTONE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

AGM

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at 7.30 pm

Ivinghoe Town Hall

Present: Cllr Annie Stack- Chair

Brian Brooks- Vice Chair

Jacky Woodhead -Treasurer

Marjory Rankin- Secretary

David Lee- Site Manager

John Lowe, Cllr Margaret Crutchfield, Gill Lloyd, Rob Spiller

Apologies: Bernard Davie and Bob Saintey

8 Tenants attended

1. **Welcome from the Chair:** Annie Stack welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced our guest speaker Emily Smith, who is a National Trust Ranger and who gave a most interesting short talk on hedgerows and their bio-diversity.

Annie thanked her and presented her with a bouquet of flowers as a thank you. She then welcomed Margaret Crutchfield to the committee.

2. **Previous Minutes:**

Annie presented the minutes from 2014 AGM and asked that they be approved. Brian Brooks approved them and Gill Lloyd seconded.

3. **Annual Review:**

Annie reported that there were now 73 plots and a total of 52 tenants. Several people were helping with the mowing of paths etc and we were very grateful for their help. The site was, therefore, looking good. We had had 2 new water troughs installed, for which the PPC had paid a portion. Brian added that there was a plan to re-inforce the path around the site to make it usable through out the year.

Annie said that for the past 5 years Gloria Snowden had been kind enough to judge the plots in our annual competition but this year David Killick from the Dagnall site would be judging sometime in August. She would let the tenants know when this would be happening.

Annie asked for comments on her proposal to allow incinerators on site. In the first instance this would be sent to the PPC who would forward it to the National Trust. Julie asked that the tenants be allowed to burn throughout the year, not just through the winter, in order to eradicate pests and diseases in crops. After much discussion Annie said that this would be

considered. John Lowe suggested that a trial period of a year be considered and the policy then reviewed.

**4. Finance:**

Jacky Woodhead presented the accounts. We had a balance of £1707 at the end of 2014/15. Subscriptions raised £475 and the PPC had given us £135 toward the new water tanks which had cost £1135. Insurance would cost @£200. This leaves us with £544 in hand.

**5. Site Manager's Report:**

Dave Lee reported that the site had now been open for 5 years and it was looking good. He had seen abundant wildlife around the site. He had carried out 2 safety risk assessments, one in October and one in March. The Risk Assessment Report had been sent to the PPC and the PAA. The track on the right hand side of the site had been damaged during the water tank installation. With 6 water tanks on site John Lowe had volunteered to help him with the cleaning of the tanks with the help of a pump. The gate to the site needs repairs and John Lowe had helped him carry these out. The PPC had paid for wood preservative for the gate.

**6. Re-election of Officers:**

All officers had indicated that they were willing to stand for re-election  
Annie Stack for Chair- proposed by Brian Brooks, seconded by Rob Spiller  
Brian Brooks for Deputy- proposed by Julie Wills seconded by Annie Stack  
Jacky Woodhead for Treasurer- proposed by Jane Pearce seconded by John Lowe  
Marjory Rankin for Secretary- proposed by Julie Wills seconded by Annie Stack

**7. Fundraising and Events:**

We would once again have a stall at Party in the Park on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2015. All produce would be gratefully received. Gill and Marjory would be at the gate to the site on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July from 5.30-7.30 pm to receive donations other wise please bring them to the stall. A general email on the subject would be sent to all tenants.

**8. AOB:**

Julie asked if she could have a tap to help with her chickens. A discussion took place about the problems of putting a tap onsite. John Lowe was very helpful in explaining the problems. It would be discussed more fully at the next committee meeting.  
The tenants expressed their thanks and appreciation to the committee.