

## **Harborne Hill Allotment's Committee Meeting Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Present were – A Thomson (Chair), A.Garbutt (Hon Sec), T Beach (Hon Treas), G.Adams, A.Chebil, J.Cherrington; B.Coles; S.Coote; D.Dennick; and T. Wright. Apologies were received from N.Amos and P.Jackson.**

**Minutes of the last meeting - these were approved ,proposer G. Adams, seconder T.Beach**

**Secretary's Report** – all our plots are in the process of being taken, and we have a few neglected plots. The TV episode of Doctors filmed on Miklor's plot went out at the beginning of February. The willow tree which hung over the bridge at the back of Miklor's plot has been cut back after we managed to prove to the Tree Officer that it was slipping. The corrugated sheeting on top of the tool lockers has been sealed on the underside to stop there being a shedding of asbestos fibres. Our in house maintenance team of Stephen and Bobby George managed to deal with a leaking shop roof and a ill-fitting shop door. Two guys will be with us 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> March to trim the inside of the hedge along Kingscote Road and the shrubbery along Nursery Road. John Cherrington has continued fitting new locker doors. One of our beekeepers Robin is moving to France, his two hives will be handed over to Nathaniel then they all will be covered by Nathaniel's insurance policy. Tom Beach, Tim Wright, Sue Griffith and I have attended meetings giving us an update on negotiations on a Management Agreement with Birmingham City Council, there were 4 separate meetings at different venues around the City, only about a third of sites were represented. It appears that the Parks Department accepted many of the suggestions, but the Legal Department has yet to give their views. Dispute Procedure, this was mentioned at the last meeting, I have contacted the BDAC and the Allotment Office for advice. Liz Parkes will be out of action for a few weeks having broken her leg. Andy Taylor is at last definitely moving to Australia and we wish him and Dilys well. Our Sue Griffith has been co-opted on to the Committee of the Birmingham and District Allotment Confederation. The BDAC website has improved somewhat, Minutes of their monthly meetings are now published. Their AGM will be in May.

**Treasurer's Report – the accounts for the last year are with the Auditor, we await our maintenance grant from BCC and our !0% of the rents collected. The audited accounts are being prepared in time for AGM.**

**Shop Report – takings last year just over £4,000, slightly down on previous year. Main sellers Compost and Farmyard Manure. But no turnip seeds.**

**Website – it is viewed by about 240 visitors a month, many from outside this country, including Russia.**

**Jobs to be done this year –**

**Water to be turned on when clear of frosts, check system for leaks, monthly meter readings to be sent to WaterPlus.**

**Plot Inspections 5<sup>th</sup> April, Tim Archie and Tom so far. Letters of Concern to be issued.**

**Accounting for use of Maintenance Grant from BCC. Schedule 7 to be submitted by end of March.**

**Painting of new shed doors and touch up of paintwork on shop and office.**

**Shop roof to be checked for leaks and repaired as necessary.**

**Slabs in front of tool lockers and bridges to be jet washed.**

**Inside of hedge along Kingscote Road and the shrubbery along Nursery Road being trimmed 14 and 15 March.**

**Gaps in hedge on Nursery Road to be blocked.**

**Plot numbers to be displayed Rule, 12.1**

**Gate and fence on Yateley Road to be repaired.**

**AGM 1230hrs Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2023 in Office or in front of Office.**

**Date of next meeting to be decided at AGM**