

MILLFIELD ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of AGM held on Saturday 18th November 2017 at the Social Building

PRESENT: Sandra Todd (Chair), Sheila & Graham Lennox (Secretary), Pauline Miles (Treasurer) plus 15 members

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received from Catherine Bowman, Ann and Clive Morris, Debby and Alan Pinnock and Hazel Burford

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM

The Minutes of the AGM held on 21st November 2016 were approved (proposer Jude Garland seconder Mike Callaway) and signed by the Chair.

Matters Arising –

With reference to item 7b) Graham reported that a welcome letter had been implemented and was being given to new ploholders on taking up their plot. It outlines their main responsibilities as outlined in their Tenancy Agreement.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Sandra welcomed members to our new Social Building and presented her report for the year (copy filed with Minutes).

- The site was broken into twice early in the year and an 8 metre length of fencing stolen. Many thanks to Derek and Kevin for carrying out repairs with some spare fencing left over.
- The social events which have been enjoyed this year were: ploholders barbeque, Open Day and scarecrow competition and the Halloween bonfire.
- The site was entered in RHS Its Your Neighbourhood competition for which we received top score once again, and Wild About Gardens run by Kent Wildlife for which we received a silver as we did last year. The bee plot was also entered for this and also gained a silver. Many thanks to Carol and Pete for maintaining the plot and looking after the bees. We also were part of Faversham Town's entry in South and South East in Bloom which helped the town to retain their gold award.
- Well done to Pauline Miles for winning our People's Choice Best Plot and to Wendy and Glenn Scott for winning Faversham Best Plot.
- In September we signed an agreement with Faversham Town Council as our new landlords.
- Many thanks to Sheila & Graham for their work, especially in applying to Tesco Bags of Help which resulted in our receiving £4000 which made the social building possible, also to Pauline for her work as Treasurer. Lastly thanks to those who give their time to help around the site and at our events.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT AND APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS – Pauline presented the audited accounts (copy filed with Minutes), the main points of which are:

- Income for the year was £4727.80, which includes a bridging loan of £2000 for the social building.
- The sale of honey made a profit of £119.
- Open Day and events raised £401.55 – with costs of £105.42 a healthy profit was made

- Expenditure for the year was £18064.81. A large part of this was £16,463 on the community building.
- Toilet renewal and repairs cost £250
- Our water bills for the year amounted to £429.31
- The balance in the bank at 31st October 2017 was £1853.32

It was clarified that the bridging loan attracted no interest and would only be for a short time. The accounts were approved unanimously.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS – The Officers confirmed that they were willing to stand for re-election and there being no other nominations they were unanimously re-elected.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Bonfires – there was a request that the permitted time for lighting bonfires be brought back for the winter months (October – March) only from 3 p.m. to 1 p.m.. The general view of members was that this was a good idea, especially in view of the safety issues of lone allotmenters having to wait until after dark to make sure their fire was safe before leaving the site. Graham to contact Faversham Town Council to ask if this would be possible as the time is stipulated in our Management Agreement with them.

b) The situation with the TV mast plot was clarified – a mental health charity is using the plot and Amicus Horizon is looking into quotes for removing asbestos from the building.

c) It was requested that the Minutes of the AGM be emailed to all members.

Meeting closed at 3 p.m.