

# Millfield Allotments Association

8<sup>th</sup> AGM November Fri 27<sup>th</sup> 2009 7:30pm  
At the Age Concern Hall, Faversham

## Minutes

1. Present : Sandra Todd (Chair), Pauline Miles (Treasurer), Matt Care (Secretary), Alan Stanford (Site warden) plus 18 Members of Millfield Allotments Association
2. Apologies; None were received
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting: These were accepted as a true and fair representation of the previous AGM and signed off by the Chairman and Secretary
4. Matters Arising
  - There were no matters arising
5. Chairman's report (Sandra Todd):

A full transcription of this is available on file, but main points are as follows

  - Sandra described Grant applications and spending on fencing and toilets
  - She thanked all involved for clearing old fencing
  - Additional thanks were given to Derek and Kevin Burbridge for fencing along our Eastern Boundary, and for adding the angled brackets and runs of barbed wire along the top of the fencing
  - Tristram Ovenden was thanked for his excellent mini-digger work during the fencing task.
  - Jeff Forsyth and Dave Ramsden were thanked for fitting out the new toilet block
  - ST described our newest projects – the bees and hives, now given their own plot as a conservation project.
  - ST noted that despite the new fencing some break-ins do continue to occur, most recently with few items being stolen but some damage done.
  - ST described plans to re-make the main footpath with a hard surface.
  - Also future projects to create raised beds for disable gardeners adjacent to the toilet block, to complete the fencing and to renew water pipes.
  - ST also described our very successful series of social events.
6. Financial Report (Pauline Miles): A set of audited accounts were presented by PM who drew attention to the following points
  - Income £13,203.69 incl. £4,000 grant for fencing and £7,767.94 for toilets
  - Expenditure £20,753.31 incl. £12,047.99 spent on fencing, £7,771.05 spent on the toilets and £162.44 spent on a beehive
  - Total reserves at Nov 2009 £191.01
  - ST noted that although grants had been gained for the fencing, the Association does still have to fund some of the works out of its reserves (in the case of fencing £2,482.50)
  - A further £500 grant was still to come for the angle brackets.



- A vote of thanks was proposed by MC and seconded by PM to ST for all her grant-seeking work, which can involve a lot of time and detailed form-filling. This was passed unanimously.
- A full set of accounts was submitted and is on file

7. **Approval of Accounts:** These were approved unanimously. The meeting acknowledged that Pauline Miles had done well to cope with the busiest year so far in MAA's history as her first year as Treasurer and was thanked and complimented accordingly.
8. **(Re)-Election of Committee:** The existing Committee were re-elected unanimously. A vote of thanks to the Committee was proposed and seconded.
9. **Key Money.** AS noted that the key money cash in hand was unchanged from 2008, being £30 plus 4 keys. AS also has a spare tap key.

#### Any Other Business (and Open Forum)

- ST noted that this year there has been a high spend on water, and that some tenants had been seen using sprinklers, which is not allowed. There was discussion of charging for use of hose-pipes and/or adding some kind of charge to the rents to cover water use, but the meeting decided to stick to and re-iterate the existing rules
- It was noted that Millfield has the lowest rents in Faversham and (at £2.00 per rod, compared to £2.50 at North Preston, £2.20 at Stonebridge Ponds and £2.70 plus a maintenance charge at Ospringe.) Millfield has also not raised rents lately. A catch-up increase will be put before the 2010 AGM, with a view to not only installing an increase (for 2011) but also establishing annual increases as the norm.
- MC/ST described a meeting to take place in December whereby Faversham Town Council (via Laurence Young of the Faversham Enterprise Partnership) began consulting Allotment Management groups in town about taking over the running of these from Swale Borough Council. MC/ST asked the meeting for a list of concerns and questions to take to that meeting. MC/ST will report back following the meeting, possibly at an Open Meeting or via Newsletter.

Closure of meeting. The meeting was closed at 20.15pm for refreshments and the raffle

#### Year 2009/10 Committee will be

Sandra Todd (Chair)  
 Pauline Miles (Treasurer)  
 Matt Care (Secretary)  
 Alan Stanford (Site Warden)  
 Rob Longman (Seed Secretary and Container Key Holder)  
 Nick Gurr (Container Key Holder)