

AFTA

Minutes of the AGM held at 7.30pm on Thursday May 18th 2017

at Frodsham Community Centre

Present:

Will Moran (sec)

Isobel Ridley (treasurer)

John Davies (maintenance sec)

Robert Yardley

Tatjana Yardley

June Withenshaw

Dave Withenshaw

Kathryn Pill

C Nolan

Angela Heverin

1. Apologies: Ken Spencer (chair), Madelaine McCraight, Pat Ridley, Jan Moran, Tracey & Keith Mason.

2. Election of officers for the year 2017 -18

Chair: Ken Spencer nominated by Isobel Ridley & Will Moran

Vice Chair: Kathryn Pill nominated by Bob Yardley & John Davies

Secretary: Will Moran nominated by Angela Heverin & June Withenshaw

Treasurer: Isobel Ridley nominated by Will Moran & Tatjana Yardley

Maintenance Secretary: John Davies nominated by Will Moran & Bob Yardley

Assistant Maintenance Secretary: Dave Withenshaw nominated by Bob Yardley & Isobel Ridley

Publicity & Social secretary no nominations received. Isobel and Will agreed to cover this on an interim basis

It was excellent that we had a new committee member volunteering but we need more as many have been involved since it was set up.

3. Introduction by Will acting as Chair.

It had been a busy year with more plots let and several relet in rapid succession after being vacated. We currently had 2 previously worked full plots to let, and also the half plot set aside for raised beds.

We had survived 3 visits from the burglars. The first visit was the most destructive in terms of items stolen as several strimmers and the mower were

taken. Numerous sheds were damaged in all 3 break-ins but very little else was taken except some cash and a few tools.

We had undertaken a second hedge planting session and the most of the hedge trees appear to have taken so the plastic collars could be removed soon.

As a result of the burglaries we decided to get a container so Will completed the planning application and got plans with help from Mike Richards of Atlantic Hardware. We had support from the local councillors and it was approved in January 17. Ken then undertook all the negotiations to get the container and prepared the site and sorted out the lock problems so a big thank you to him for all of that work.

4. Finance. Isobel reported we had £2,082.20 in the main account, £257.37 in the rent account, and £6.63 in petty cash at the financial year end. Obviously, the rent account also had £11,295.00 in rent income for the current year but that was not relevant to the year end accounts. She circulated detailed reports which will go out with the minutes.

Isobel pointed out that our proposed commitments for things like grass cutting, publicity and rat control exceeded the likely income for the year from the 15% rent share. It was only the fact that we still had a healthy reserve that enabled us to consider other items. She proposed that we would not need to be a member of the Community Association in future as we only needed to book a room once a year. We are members up until end Dec.

It was agreed in the light of the cost of grass cutting we look at purchasing a robust new or reconditioned mower with a view to doing it ourselves and saving at least £750 a year. This was a viable option now we had a secure container. John/Dave/ and Angela would look for a mower.

Dave suggested we look at getting racking for the container and this was agreed.

We agreed to change of signatory on the bank account as Sue Cundall was no longer a plot holder. John Davies would replace her. It was also agreed that once the rent account had been sorted for this year we would move bank account to the TSB as there was no longer an HSBC branch in Frodsham and the NatWest was closing soon. Will agreed to progress this.

The accounts were audited by Jill Watson who has also agreed to succeed Isobel when she wants to handover.

5. Thank You's: Will felt we should record our thanks to Sue Cundall for all her work on the committee on Publicity and doing stalls at the Community centre and Castle Park. Also thanks to Kim Davies who made the Car Park garden and worked tirelessly with others to keep it going. Some at the meeting felt it was a mixed blessing as it needed work to be kept shipshape.

Finally appreciation for all those who have volunteered on maintenance days to help keep the site looking good.

6. Maintenance John reported that we needed to put the cover over the compost heap and finish the raised bed project. (cover subsequently put on). There was a need for another reminder that the heap wasn't a general rubbish tip and bricks, broken slabs and timber should not be dumped there.

7. Website report. A new website domain has been obtained and a site is being developed that will be easy for us to maintain. Will is liaising with the designer on this.

8. AoB: Will to write to Andy & Guy with a draft letter about the damaged field boundary at the bottom of the field.

With thanks to everyone who attended the meeting adjourned just after 9pm.

Will Moran

Secretary  
22/5/17