

AFTA

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 10am on Saturday 9th September 2017

at Will's
Ivy Cottage,
Bradley Lane,
Frodsham,
WA6 6QA

Present:

Ken Spencer (chair)
Will Moran (sec)
Robert Yardley
Tatjana Yardley

1. Apologies: Keith & Tracy Mason, Isobel Ridley (treasurer), John Davies (maintenance sec), Angela Heverin, Kathryn Pill (vice chair).

2. Minutes of Meeting July 8th 2017 Agreed.

3. Matters Arising

- Open Day. We felt the open day was a great success despite the indifferent weather especially in the morning. £247 was raised on the day boosted by a further donation after the event to £267. A big thank you to everyone who provided cakes and produce for the stalls and worked on the meet and greet. Special thanks to John, Isobel, and Kathryn for all their work before and during the day. Kathryn's poster and flyer were excellent. Almost 100 people came during the course of the day and five plot lettings were concluded on the day.
- Website. Will apologised as the deadline for this has slipped again mainly because of holidays and the work around all the extra plot lettings. I have some further editing to do and then one more meeting to make it go live. One of the new plot holders works in communications and has offered to help with media in the future.
- Security. Continued problems with the gate but Bob has got more keys which I will distribute to the new tenants.
- Maintenance. As all plots are now full we need to mark out some more. It was agreed to have a 'work party' on Saturday 30th September

starting about 10am to mark out the outline of a full and half plot in a new row and mark it on down to the bottom.

- Compost Toilet survey. This is three quarters complete with the overwhelming majority in favour. Will has looked at three alternatives from the National Allotment Mag. Eco-Loos would cost about £2k but need quite a bit of input in moving the site. A superior design by Natsol would cost about £8k with installation. They have several installed locally so I will liaise with Angela about a visit to Haddocks Wood to see it courtesy of Denis. Kathryn has agreed to help with this. I'll do an application to the wind farm community grant fund as this would be way beyond our means. Discussion about installing an ordinary flushing loo but the planning application issues around doing this are very difficult and we would need to install a septic tank and empty it.

4. Finance. Current Balance on the main account as at 9/9/17 is £2,212-48 and the rent account £510-84. Amount of petty cash not certain. £226 of the rent will be transferred to the main account as it is our percentage. We have had the renewal letter from the NSALG (national allotment association) just after the meeting and I will pay that as we need our continued membership and its due mid month well before our next meeting. We also had an invoice for membership of the Community Association but I will speak to Isobel about this because I think she felt it wasn't really value for money as we only book a room once a year. The Rat invoice will be due at the end of the year but there are no other commitments and doing our own grass cutting has proved very cost-effective.

5. Vacant plots. It has been an extremely busy few weeks on the plot front. We have never had so much movement since I started looking after the rent. One half plot has changed hands twice in 6 weeks! 10 plots have new tenants including families with children which is good. We have let D14 so the original grid is full.

6. AoB.

- Further amendments to the draft welcome letter to include mention of the compost heap.

8. Date of Next Meeting Saturday 25th November at 10am at either Isobel's or Ivy Cottage, Venue to be confirmed.