

**EWAA Committee Meeting Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm**

**Chair:** Jane Millar                      Minutes: Valerie Wardlaw  
**Present:** Andy Henson, Stewart Young, Derek Bloomfield, Chris Rumble, Pat Mansfield, Jane Nimmo-Smith, Anne Clark, Stephen Twine  
**Appologies:** John Cropper, Helen Costello, Steve Simmons

<p><b>Minutes of last meeting- matters arising:-</b>          -Noticeboards still to put up          -White House project- use of polytunnels: EWAA Gate key fits padlock- far right hand corner for us to use Stewart will add info to the Newsletter          -Shed keys for Richard: Anne will give him them          - fencing update- slowdown in activity and delays, Stewart will keep checking.</p>	<p>Steve  Stewart  Anne Stewart</p>
<p><b>2. EWAA/ OUWG</b>          -Jane's updated notes from the joint meeting were circulated; trees by Amelia's plot are in the buffer zone so their maintenance is our responsibility. All buffer zones need to be level so they are mowable in future (by us if necessary)- OUWG are currently supposed to maintain the buffer zones.          -Valerie will send the agreed amendments to OUWG once Jane has finalised them.          -EWAA shouldn't be involved in internal OUWG difficulties, so all agreed not to respond to further correspondence or discussions.          -OUWG can't ban EWAA members from access through the Boundary Brook Gate as it is in our lease agreement with OCC          -Derek will go to the OUWG 20th anniversary party on our behalf</p>	<p>Jane Valerie        Derek</p>
<p><b>3. OCC Council Allotments meeting and Federation AGM</b>          Stewart attended meetings:-our rent review is still in abeyance due to the non-signing of the lease. The OC Council has not consulted the Federation on rent reviews, but increases work out at 21% increase over the 7 years since the last rent increase. We will be asked for a similar increase in the near future when our lease is signed.          Trustees role- OCC recommends we should re-elect trustees at each AGM to ensure they are involved in the allotment. Agreed that we won't instigate annual voting as we do not feel it is necessary at the moment. May need a new Trustee if Jean moves away.          Stewart will continue to write to Mike Gass about the fencing snagging, Cricket Road and Howard Street fencing. Chris will check for missing bolts in case the gates are in danger of being stolen.          Grants- will have to apply from early May for money, not be given it automatically as last year. More money is available through the local food lottery grant if anyone is interested.          Allotment Competition: site awards and plot awards by 16<sup>th</sup> May.          Federation fee increase agreed from 20p to 40p per member-needed due to increase in postal charges. Valerie has sent our statistics to the Federation.</p>	<p>Stewart Chris</p>

<p><b>4. Plot Update</b> inspection: by 3 people on the 11<sup>th</sup> May starting at 10am- Steve and two others- Stewart, Valerie (If Steve available)</p>	<p>Steve Stewart Valerie</p>
<p><b>5. Shop update-</b> Manure order- Derek to order two loads (361592/ 07770 743253)- one for shop and one for ex skip plot beside Chris Rumbles plot (need signs if manure is too fresh to use immediately)</p>	<p>Derek Valerie</p>
<p><b>6. Mid-summer party</b> 28<sup>th</sup> June afternoon till 7pm:- will go ahead only if we can get volunteers to organise it- add item to Newsletter</p>	<p>Steve</p>
<p><b>7. Work Parties</b> Turning compost bins, clearing outside the shop and building more compost bins, shed clear-up- <b>8<sup>th</sup> June</b> 10-12 (Sunday- note correct date is <b>8<sup>th</sup></b>) plus order a skip for outside the shop</p>	<p>Valerie Andy</p>
<p><b>8. Wish list</b> OCC Grant application: Small rotavator-£300 Mantis tiller- will ask for a contribution if not whole cost- Stewart will do the application</p>	<p>Stewart</p>
<p><b>9. Newsletter-</b> <b>needs to be distributed by 7<sup>th</sup> May due to allotment competition deadline- send Steve items for inclusion:</b> Polytunnel use- ask in shop if want to know where is EWAA area Allotment Competition entry forms in shop Volunteers needed to organise the Summer Party on the 28<sup>th</sup> if it is to go ahead Dogs on leads and gates being locked reminder Children under control reminder Cars- no parking on paths reminder Work party- 8<sup>th</sup> June 10-12 Compost bins etc Ponds and frog rescue from waterbutts- Pat will send info Please help yourself to chippings pile, but pay for manure Competition for best plot number plate to encourage numbering- announce now and judge at summer party</p>	<p>Steve</p>
<p><b>10. Equipment servicing:</b> New mower bought and tested Strimmer still in bits- Derek will talk to Alan again about getting it back in one piece Strimmer No 2 is being fixed at the moment Atco- worth £70-100, Hover mower, Suffolk Colt engine to sell on eBay Shed working party- 8<sup>th</sup> June- Andy will put up shelves etc to get equipment off the floor- chuck out anything that doesn't belong to us.</p>	<p>Derek Jane Andy</p>
<p><b>11. Dogs off leads/ gates unlocked</b> Valerie will write generic letters to follow on from verbal challenges</p>	<p>Valerie</p>

to offenders- draft letters for next meeting for agreement	
<b>12. Chippings pile-</b> put up notice to ask tree surgeons to phone Stewart before they dump as the pile is too big, plus notice telling plot holders to help themselves	Valerie
<b>13. Drainage of water</b> Andy has been consulting on the drainage to see if anything can be done to address the areas that get waterlogged- will continue investigations with Steve Smith (the OCC Council person who knows about the drainage), Thames Water etc	Andy
<b>14. Skip placement-</b> Andy will order for next working party and will be put outside shop from now on	Andy
<b>15. Competition for plot number plates-</b> newsletter item packets of seeds for prizes- Stewart will add to newsletter	
<b>AOB:</b> <b>Associate members</b> –charge them 10p and give them a card <b>Vice President-</b> Derek will stand down in September <b>President:</b> Jane will also be standing down in September <b>Dust bins:</b> offered for water butts- Valerie will phone to agree	Valerie
<b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June at Allotment Shop	