

**Minutes of EWAA Committee Meeting
Thursday 24th May 7.30pm**

Chair: Stuart Young **Minutes:** Valerie Wardlaw
Present: Helen Costello, Cari Morningstar, Alan Hart, Derek Bloomfield, Pat Mansfield, Jane Millar, Jane Nimmo-Smith, Jean Tiller
Apologies:

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| 1. Minutes of last meeting- matters arising- all covered later in agenda | |
| 2. Chair's update Next Allotment Forum on Tues 5 th June at 7.30 in the Town Hall- Stewart can't attend, Pat & Derek attending on our behalf. Florence Park Show Sat 8 th Sept- SY will get entry forms for us in time for the EWAA Party. There is also a grow the biggest sunflower competition- packs of seeds available from the organisers. Elder Stubbs show will be during Allotments Week- 13 th -19 th August- Stewart will chase details. Wood chippings- still being dumped outside gate to Road 2- not allowed especially as the council workmen are using the area to store their fencing equipment. Mares tail- invading the site this year- call for ideas of what to do about it. Lease with the Council- Stewart is still chasing to check all confirmed. | SY SY Alan All SY |
| 3. Council fencing Stewart met with Mike Glass the day after last EWAA Committee meeting to discuss what the Association wanted re fencing. Workmen are on site & will be putting up new fencing along the southern boundary, along boundary with Cricket Road neighbours between Road 3 and Howard Street. They are repairing the Howard St boundary. Stewart will check that the Boundary Brook stretch is replaced with palisade by the housing association as it now looks vulnerable with scrub clearance. Stewart will check they are putting in a wicket gate into gate by Road 3. Originally agreed to replace padlocks with combination locks, but all agreed they would prefer padlocks to be fitted. SY to advise council. | SY SY |
| 4. Summer Party 4pm-7pm, 23 rd June in the Play Area on Road 2 Derek will cut grass/ bring a barbeque. Alan will try to borrow the OUWG gas barbeque Jane Millar & Helen agreed to organise food & drink & Jane will write a piece for the newsletter asking people to bring & share food and drink. EWAA will provide some soft drinks, paper plates & cups, & a ½ barrel with ice, baguettes from the bread shop. Helen has asked Jenny to organise some children's activities Completions for best grown below/above ground/ best fruit/ longest perennial weed with certificates to win | DB/ Alan JM/HC |
| 5. Plot management- The committee assessed the % cultivation of all plots on the allotment in April and agreed to send letters to the following plot holders raising concerns about levels of cultivation: 2, 15, 20, 21, 23a, 55, 56, 60, 61, 87, 91, 116b, 118a, 120, 144, 192a, 193a, 208b, 216b, Cari to contact plots 11 & 213 to check if plot holders want to retain their plots. Valerie will send the letters. | CM VW |

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| <p>6. Plots for rotavating EWAA rotavator has still not arrived so EWAA unable to help plot holders to rotavate plots. Info on this to be added to the newsletter.</p> | DT |
| <p>7. Membership Secretary vacancy All agreed the EWAA needs a Membership Secretary and appreciates Cari's hard work getting so many new members actively cultivating plots. Cari will write something for the newsletter advertising the post and will check with plot holders who showed an interest in the post. All reiterated that only the Membership Secretary could assign vacant plots, and that plots will be given to the next on the list with no special favours. Members staffing the shop should take names & contact details of people interested in joining the waiting list and pass to the Membership Secretary to collate.</p> | CM All |
| <p>8. Tools- All paperwork must be completed when equipment is borrowed- tools are being damaged and not used properly with no come-back. All agreed that the mower should not be rented out- only strimmers. Alan will try & fix the scythe.</p> | All Alan |
| <p>9. Work Parties 16th June- cancelled</p> | |
| <p>10. Newsletter David agreed to produce a newsletter by 10th June with info on: Summer Party- we will provide: you bring/ Membership Secretary Rotavator/ Fencing/ Mares tail, Bonfires, gates, composting point, water, rubbish, strimmer rules, Frog escape bridges in water butts- explanation Info on rent days- rent must be paid by noon on the last rent day, thereafter a late payment fee of £5/£2 concessions will be charged. The Membership Secretary will then organise the committee to contact non- rent payers by phone and letter giving the AGM as the final deadline for rent payment. If payment is still outstanding at the AGM, the committee will send final warning letters and plots will be reallocated.</p> | DT Jane M CM |
| <p>11. Locking Gates If anyone is noticed leaving gates unlocked they should be reminded to lock gates & their plot number should be taken. If repeat offender then the Committee will send a warning letter with the potential to forfeit their plot if they continue to compromise the security of the allotment.</p> | All |
| <p>12. Lazy dogs Andy to buy one-for removing bramble roots- check with Pat first to get the right kind- the forked fronted kind.</p> | Andy |
| <p>13. Recruitment Valerie to take down poster as we now have a waiting list</p> | VW |
| <p>14 Stroke strimmer Alan found one for £329- all agreed to buy- Alan/Andy to sort this out</p> | Andy/ Alan |
| <p>15. Shop- Helen investigating mypex black plastic, denser netting, wider fleece On order: beans, clover & green manures</p> | Helen |
| <p>AOB Toilets- Alan will be painting floors & walls so will close toilets for a few days- he will put up a notice on door.</p> | Alan |
| <p>Frogs drowning in the water butts- need to put a plank in to allow them to climb out- put piece in newsletter explaining</p> | DT |
| <p>Organise a work party in the autumn to tackle the mares tail with crushing and glycosphating.</p> | ALL |
| <p>Date of next meeting- 26th July 2007 at Allotment Shop</p> | |

