

**Minutes of EWAA Committee Meeting
Thursday 6th September 2007**

Chair: Stewart Young **Minutes:** Valerie Wardlaw
Present: Derek Bloomfield, Pat Mansfield, Jane Millar, Andy Henson, Steve Simmons, Jane Nimmo-Smith, Chris Rumble, Helen Costello, Monika Jaenicke
Apologies: Cari Morningstar

<p>1. Minutes of last meeting- matters arising Need to discuss the rules of cultivation again as there was disagreement about what was decided at the last meeting- on tonight's agenda</p>	
<p>2. Plot management decisions on non-cultivators of plots The following plot holders, already sent letters of concern, whose plots are still not cultivated, will be sent a final letter saying their plots are being re-allocated to new tenants: <i>personal information deleted from web version</i> Plot 2, Plot 15, Plot 23a, Plot 56a, Plot 87, Plot 208b.</p> <p>A tenant for 50 years will be encouraged to downsize or move to White House, but not evicted. Plot 118a is given a further deadline of Dec 07 to reach 25% cultivation. Plot 120 will be asked to downsize to ½ plot New Plot holders this year with low cultivation levels –no action. Plot holders of more than one year with low cultivation levels- their levels of cultivation to be discussed when they pay their rent, and a deadline of 13th December given to achieve 25% cultivation or they may lose their plot.</p>	<p>Valerie</p> <p>All on rent days</p>
<p>3. Confirming Rules of Cultivation The rules of cultivation were adjusted to recognize preparatory work done on plots where mulches are being used for organic weed clearance, and to reduce the total level of cultivation required to 75%. The following definition was agreed: Plot holders should be expected to cultivate 25% of their plot in the first year, and increase by 25% each year reaching 75% after three years of tenancing their plot. Black plastic and other mulches may be temporarily used to suppress weeds, but carpets should not be used. Where mulches are used for organic ground clearance, plots can be covered for the first year, but should show 25% cultivation in the second year.</p>	
<p>4. Chair's Update Stewart has been unable to get a response from the council on any outstanding issues due to their holidays.</p>	
<p>5. Florence Park Show Stewart, Steve, Andy and Derek will staff the EWAA table and take shop stock to sell. Helen will bag up more green manures to sell.</p>	
<p>6. Council fencing & gates progress No action or communication due to OCC summer holidays.</p>	
<p>7. Rent Days preparation Andy has receipt books, stamps and change organised. Valerie will print out</p>	<p>Valerie</p>

membership lists with plots causing concern highlighted, for Officers to discuss with plotholders when they pay their rent. Could all contact details be checked for accuracy? Also ask members about the usefulness of the shop.	All on rent days
<p>8. Stock take update/ Future of shop</p> <p>Andy has completed the stock take and is concerned about the level of unsold seeds. Should we sell seeds?- Perishable products are a problem as we lose money if they aren't sold, whereas black plastic lasts. Helen will investigate other seed suppliers for better discounts and all should ask plotholders on rent days whether the shop should sell seeds. All agreed the shop was a valuable resource which we should keep, but we may need to rethink how we stock perishable items- could ask people to order seeds in advance for instance.</p>	Helen All on rent days
<p>9. AGM preparation</p> <p>Valerie will draft an agenda and circulate for approval. Stewart is standing down and Jane Millar has agreed to take over as Chair. Steve has agreed to take over from Cari as Membership secretary, otherwise all post holders agree to continue for another year. Agreed that we need to put the expanded definition of cultivation to a vote to be ratified. Stewart also suggested an amendment to prevent conflict of interest with OUWG, such that no one can become an Officer of the EWAA if they are also an Officer of OUWG. Andy asked that if the EWAA rules are altered and reprinted, then could the size of plots be shown in metric measurements, i.e. 250m² (10 poles) and 60cm (2 foot), where appropriate.</p>	Valerie
<p>10. Security issues- stripping of OUWG & EWAA fruit trees</p> <p>Taking any produce from a plot that you don't rent is an evictable offence so everyone should challenge anyone seen doing so. Stewart suggested arranging a joint meeting with OUWG to discuss any issues such as this to try and resolve them amicably. We will arrange this at the next Committee meeting.</p>	All
<p>11. Work parties</p> <p>Stewart will arrange a skip for Saturday November 10th for the work parties between 10am and 12 on the 10th & 11th. This will be for general site clearing. A second work party will be held on Saturday the 23rd & Sunday the 24th February between 10am & 12, leader to be agreed at next meeting.</p>	Stewart
<p>12. Payments for Plot clearance</p> <p>Postponed discussion of this until the next meeting.</p>	
<p>13. AOB</p> <p>4 stroke strimmer and changes in the strimming rules to be added to the AGM Agenda for voting on any changes.</p> <p>EWAA Equipment servicing- agreed to have all equipment serviced professionally. Derek will collect all EWAA equipment from OUWG, and collect the EWAA shed keys from Alan. A number of items will need to be taken to be fixed.</p>	Valerie
<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>EWAA AGM at 7.30pm on 27th September, 18th October, 13th December 2007</p>	