

BUSHY PARK ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Meeting: -	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Date & Time: -	12 th October 2013 – 11:00 AM
Location	The Shop, Bushy Park Allotments
Minutes prepared by: -	Robin Hewitt (Secretary)
Present: -	Phil Iddison (Chairman), Jenny Bevan (Treasurer), committee members and plotholders (37 total)
Apologies: -	Chris Pickard, Ted Leppard, Cleve West, Christina Aston, the Kings, Patsy Iddison
Circulation: -	Committee members, notice boards, Pete Lewis

Item	Minute	Action by
1	AGM of 10th November 2012 The minutes were agreed. Proposed by Shelagh Secola and seconded by Kathy.	
2	Chairman's report The Chairman referred to his written report available to all plotholders, along with the latest newsletter and accounts. He said he would cover some of the major points under Any Other Business.	
3	Treasurer's report The Treasurer referred to the published accounts on the notice boards. The main account shows a balance of £1388.19. She clarified that payments to John Whitby for work on the kitchen were for materials only and he and his helpers were given a vote of thanks for their efforts. She reported that the shop accounts were not yet finalised and would be published shortly. The accounts were accepted, proposed by Elaine Smyth and seconded by Lisa Mallah.	
4	Election of the committee The Chairman reported that he would approach Ted Leppard to see if he wished to continue in view of his illness. All other committee members had volunteered to stand for another year and he proposed they be re-elected. He asked for further volunteers, particularly from newcomers, and Bryan Basdell agreed to rejoin. The re-election of the Committee was proposed by Kathy, seconded by Karin Sumption and agreed by the meeting.	
6	Any other business The following points were raised: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Chairman noted that everyone should have received their invoice for the next rental year. The rent had been increased by 45% and he believed this was based on an effort by the Council to balance the allotment service books which currently show an annual deficit of over £50,000. We do not have access to a breakdown of income or costs. He asked that anyone considering giving up their plot for financial reasons should contact the committee to see if anything can be done. It was suggested that we should protest at the increase and possibly propose staggering increases over the year. 2) He recorded our thanks for all those who helped on open days, helped neighbours, helped with the track repairs, running the shop or the work on the barbecue and oven. He announced the creation of a Committee Award for helpfulness to the community, and he presented this year's award to Mary Coneely. 3) He noted that produce thefts were continuing, particularly of fruit from 	

	<p>trees. The Committee suspects that this is being done by keyholders and all were asked to be vigilant. Provided there is sufficient evidence in the form of witnesses or photographs, culprits can lose their plots. However, it is impossible to trace all the keys in circulation.</p> <p>4) He reported that the Council wishes for allotment sites to move to self-management, but no information has been received as yet. Meetings are being held with other site representatives to co-ordinate a uniform response.</p> <p>5) It was agreed to circulate all AGM and Committee minutes by email.</p> <p>6) He noted that with the plotholders' current bills they should have received the new Terms and Conditions, the main change being a tightening of the rules on non-cultivation. This should enable us to re-let neglected plots faster.</p> <p>7) Concern was expressed at the amount of material being dumped near the shop. The Chairman confirmed that compost and wood chip deliveries were allowed from known sources, but we know some flytipping occurs and suspected flytippers should be challenged. All were asked to help move compost to the back of the bins.</p>	
7	<p>The meeting closed at 11.45 with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and this was followed by a seed swap and barbecue for the tenants. The barbecue was funded from the shop profits.</p>	