

## **Bushy Park Allotment Association**

Committee Meeting

28.11.21

Minutes

Present:

Giuseppe De Vai (Chair), Julie Batton (Treasurer), John Wade, Hana Malcekova, Hugh Munro (Secretary), Ian Scrupps.

Welcome to all, no apologies received.

### **1. BRAG meeting**

Update following the Borough of Richmond Allotments Group (BRAG) meeting at York House on 23.11.21

Hugh Munro informed the committee of the main items covered during this meeting:

New Allotments Officer – Jo Rodgers

Vacant plots and waiting list

Community payback team

Public liability insurance

We still await the minutes of the BRAG meeting, but it was noted that the new Allotments Officer, Jo Rodgers, indicated her intention to be proactive in respect of vacant plots and the lengthy waiting list.

### **2. Committee membership**

It was agreed that, to obey the constitution of the BPAA, a minimum of 8 members is required. The maximum is 12. Quorum is six members, not including the Chair; this means that for a decision to be made at a meeting, six members must be present. The Chairman does not vote unless there is a tie, in which case he or she has the cast vote.

### **3. Treasurer**

The appointment of Julie Batton as Treasurer was ratified, and it was agreed that she and Giuseppe De Vai will soon open a BPAA bank account and that the funds in the outgoing committee's account would be thereafter transferred in to the new account. It was agreed that this course of action is more efficient than the tedious business of changing the signature mandate of the outgoing committee's account.

### **4. RHS membership**

It was decided that membership of the Royal Horticultural Society will be terminated, together with the accompanying public liability insurance. This decision was made on the basis that RHS receives negligible interest from plot holders and, other than at events organised by the BPAA, Richmond Borough Council's insurance gives adequate cover to plot holders, subject to personal liability clauses.

### **5. Bonfires**

It was agreed that the current ban on bonfires is to be observed, but that the proper and careful use of purpose-built incinerators for the disposal of waste vegetation be investigated.

### **6. Website**

It was decided that, following the retirement of Robin Hewitt following ten years as Secretary, the BPAA website should have a new administrator. Mr Pedro Vincente was nominated in his absence, his response is awaited.

7. Woodchip and Manure

It was decided to investigate sources of woodchip, but with care to avoid the delivery of poor-quality chippings. The return to full operation of the local stables was welcomed as good news, but it was acknowledged that there may be shortages in the near future due to a temporary lack of horses.

8. Point of Order

It was acknowledged that the meeting had not achieved quorum and the decisions made would therefore have to be fully endorsed at the next BPAA Committee meeting, which is on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Hopefully, quorum will be achieved on that occasion.

9. AOB

Nil.

Next meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2022