

GREAT MASSINGHAM ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION AGM

Wednesday March 12th 2025

GM Village Hall

7.30 pm

AGM Minutes

1. No apologies – full committee in attendance as well as 12 plot holders.
2. Chair person welcome and report.
 - Sue is now standing down as Chair after several years and we thank her for her work and support to bring the committee to a positive place. She will stay on the committee.
 - She reported that we have a much better relationship with the PC although they don't wish to interfere.
 - We as a committee shall be revising some of the rules to include a bio diversity clause, a procedure for allocating plots and something regarding plots standing unused. BUT we aim to have guidance and not too many rules.
 - Plot cost has gone up by 50p this year
 - The PC is working with us to repair the road
3. Treasurer report
 - Caroline is standing for her last year
 - Started year £1476 but ended with £1818 mainly through the donations from the DD and the village shop.
 - The Kings seeds order gave us an additional £521

- The general insurance has risen by 9% which is a good deal that Caroline has negotiated.

4. Membership secretary report

- We now have a few plots available and four individuals on the waiting list so DR to meet with the respective parties and decide who is best suited to which plot.
- Question from the current plot holders re allocation of plots. We will decide as a committee on a procedure so that it is fair for all and discuss at our next meeting.

5. General secretary report

- Nothing to report except that we aim to work to using electronic copies of minutes and information moving forward with a copy posted on the noticeboard.

6. Kevin Hobart Chair of the Parish Council

- We welcome Kevin to our meeting to discuss the PC involvement in the allotments. The PC is required to adhere to new bio diversity rules and hence is carrying out a seasonal audit of the whole village including the allotments. Hence the committee have been asked to draw up a bio diversity policy of guidelines.
- There was a question re the boundaries of the properties that back onto the allotments and KH said he would investigate.
- The PC is working with Freebridge and us to fund the road repair by a contractor and more information is to follow. On the day this is carried out the allotment road will be CLOSED TO ALL. More information to follow.

7. All members of the committee are required to stand down and then be re elected for their positions as follows:

- SD stands down as chair and AR is proposed by SD and seconded by CB.
- CB re stands as treasurer proposed by SD and seconded by JT
- DR re stands as membership secretary proposed by SD and seconded by LH

- LH re stands as general secretary proposed by SD and seconded by JT
- We welcome two new members to the committee – Tom Gillham and Dave Lowe.

8. AOB

- Committee was asked who makes the rules and where do they come from? Rules were sent out with last newsletter and again attached to these minutes. Question was re the use of tarpaulin to cover unused plot. There is no rule regarding this and it is standard allotment practice. However the use of carpet is no longer acceptable.
- Committee was asked why the plots are not allowed to be used to sell commercially. This is a standard allotment rule and is supported by the PC.
- Committee was asked why we have to pay insurance for each person not per plot as if it is for public liability insurance the public are not supposed to be on our plots. AR to investigate this and report back.
- Committee asked about accessibility for people with disabilities. AR stated that if someone with a disability applied we would look at what we could do but this is not required at the moment. The new road will make it easier for prams/wheelchairs to access the plots.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.