

**DIAMOND JUBILEE ALLOTMENT SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**14th MARCH 2023**

**Held in Community Centre, Stonnall**

**25 people in attendance**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Dave welcomed everyone to the meeting. No Apologies were received.

**2. The previous AGM minutes were not reviewed however they were taken as read.**

**3. Annual report from the Chair**

Dave Pitcher introduced himself to all attendees as this is the first AGM meeting in three years that he has attended due to COVID and personal reasons.

He reminded all that we now have a lease for 10 years enabling us to set more things in place as we know more long term.

Work can now take place on the fences. A meeting between Dave and Pete Mellor Ltd is taking place at 1000 on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023. The paint and brushes have been purchased for staining the shed and toilet possibly in April.

Weedkiller (concentrate) and backpack sprayer have also been purchased to use on the perimeter fences and also any plots left unattended.

The old barn did have a planning application refused in Jan 2022; however, this has been appealed and there is now a possibility that 3 houses could be built on that site.

The opening and closing of the main gates continue to be a problem. The farmer and the landowner have been informed and until they repair them, we are to only use the right-hand gate (from the road) and only lock if we can.

As we do every year, a skip will be placed by the shed in April to allow plot holders to smarten up their area. Only certain items can be placed in this skip so look out for an email from Debra.

Overall, most plots are taken. Debra will give an update during her treasures report.

**4. Report from the Treasurer**

Debra gave a full account of the income and expenditure for the year and the audited accounts are published on the website. She explained the reasons for the 10% increase in plot rents. Society just about broke even last year, a reserve is maintained for any major expenditure (shed replacement and/or fence repair). This year the fence repair

will take a large amount of our funds. Debra gave an update on the plot membership situation that is changing daily.

### **Nominations for committee members**

No new nominations had been forthcoming. Dave Pitcher was nominated and re-elected as chairman. Debra Tullah has remained as Treasurer and will continue to serve as Membership Administrator and Secretary. The above was nominated by Sue Guy and seconded by Roger Bunting.

### **5. Questions from the floor**

Fuel for the equipment was discussed. Graham explained that the fuel was always kept on his plot (24a). The Red can contains 2 stroke petrol for the strimmer and the Green can contains 4 stroke petrol for the mowers and the rotavator's.

Path cutting was discussed. We reminded all that (from the car park), the top and right-hand side of the plot was the responsibility of the plot holder to cut. This would help going forward.

The use of the strimmer was discussed. All agreed it was difficult to start, use and ensure enough cutting line. Graham will have a look at it. Dave will also look into the possibility of purchasing a battery-operated strimmer that has dual batteries (allowing one to be charged etc)

Seed sharing was discussed. Seed/produce sharing can take place, however this would need the right location ie secure, watertight 24/7 access etc. Being investigated. Debra did mention that a seed sharing box exists at the front of the Shenstone Library.

**The meeting closed for refreshments at this point.**