

DRAFT MINUTES - to be ratified at next AGM
Row Gardens Allotment Group - Rippingale

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Bull Inn, Rippingale, 19:30
Tuesday 13th November 2007.**

Present:

Simon Goode, Barry Flatters, Pauline Warman, Dave Harris, Emma Newsome, Andrew Flatters, Steve Langman and Steve Harrison.

Apologies:

Brian Cook, Brian Martin, Iain Middleton, Angela Adams, Paul Rice, Christine Williams, Steve Lawton, Charlotte Moseley, John Warman and John Lindsay.

1. Membership and Fees:

1.1

Some members have yet to pay their fees for this year and are reminded to pass them to Simon Goode as soon as possible. NSALG fees are due in November.

1.2

The group has sixteen members, including 5 on the waiting list.

1.3

The treasurer can report that the group currently has £22.57.

2. Release of Allotment Land:

2.1

The additional land requested by the group has been felled and debris gathered up into several piles. A license from the Environment Agency is being sought (no issues expected) and the debris will be burnt at the soonest convenient time. Rippingale Parish Council (RPC) is coordinating this. Once done this will be ploughed and presented in a suitable format for plot holders. Plots will be marked out by the committee in due course.

3. Proposed Parking area / access roads:

3.1

Car parking and access roads will be looked at in further detail once the additional land has been handed over to plot holders, carrying on from the work already put in by John Warman. Several quotes will be obtained and the most suitable option will be voted upon and taken forward.

4. Rippingale Parish Council Allotment liaison:

4.1

RPC has dedicated a liaison specifically for RGAG to help the smooth coordination of the projects we are looking to undertake now and in the future. Councilor Mike Exton has taken this post.

5. Seed Scheme 2007:

5.1

Angela Adams has kindly agreed to coordinate this and is processing orders. Anyone interested in the seed scheme should contact Angela or the Secretary.

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6. Water Source at the allotment:

6.1

As mentioned at a previous RGAG meeting, having a dedicated water source at the allotment has been noted as a future project by the allotment group, but also more recently recognised by RPC as a project that may need some assistance. This will be looked into once the additional land and car parking / access roads are in place.

7. Voting in a Secretary, Chairman and Treasurer:

7.1

Simon Goode put himself up for re-election as Secretary and Treasurer. Simon Goode was proposed to be re-elected for these positions by Barry Flatters and seconded by Emma Newsome.

7.2

Iain Middleton was not put up for re-election as Chairman. A new Chairman will be sought in the near future. Please direct any initial enquires in the meantime to the Secretary.

8. AOB:

8.1

It was suggested and agreed that a bank account be opened, in line with the constitution. Whilst in the constitution the amount specified is £25 to be held, this figure will be achieved once the pending subs for the year have been collected.

8.2

Emma Newsome informed us that she had access to a sprayer, suitable chemicals and a 'man who can' that could spray off the weeds along the hedgerow next the road. This is planned for this winter with agreement from those present to help level it should it need doing and grass seed sowed in the spring. Once in place Andrew Flatters has kindly agreed to make cast iron bench that can be fixed to the ground (subject to any permission required) and Barry Flatters has agreed to make a sign / notice board for the group. These all being well, will be in place by the summer. Suitable press will be sought once all items are in place.

8.3

It was mentioned that a communal compost heap could be instigated, to allow usage for allotment holders and the RPC with regards to grass cuttings, which allotment holders could use. Containment was an issue raised upon this idea and is an idea that could be developed upon going forward.

8.4

A letter has recently been received from RPC (dated 11 September 2007) in response to a request to look into moving the 30 mph signs further out of the village to encourage drivers to slow down by the time they pass the allotments. South Kesteven and Sleaford Highways declined this request as it does not meet the criteria required by Lincolnshire County Council.

8.5

A quarterly Allotment magazine is received as part of the group's NSALG membership. Should anyone like to look at these please contact the Secretary.

The meeting closed at 20:30.

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