

MINUTES OF ROW GARDEN ALLOTMENTS

Thurs 15th August 2013

At Rippingale Village Hall 8pm

PRESENT: Angela Adams, Doreen & Stuart Hilton, Trevor Larner, Julie Lydon, Graham Ashworth, Eva Patrick, Paul Watkins, Ginger Flatters, John Scholes, Paul Caston.

APOLOGIES: Sheila Scholes

The last minutes were agreed & signed.

MATTERS ARISING: It was agreed to make the Notice Board bigger and to erect it on the car park. Graham agreed to make it if he is supplied with the materials.

The old windows on the allotments are to be removed by Trevor.

The far entrance has been flattened but Graham felt that it still needs more taking off and widening to allow cars to enter, Graham & Ian will undertake to see this is done.

The Strimmer has been purchased.

The Free BBQ arranged for the Plot Holders was again reported by Doreen & Trevor to be poorly attended by allotment holders although some of the new prospective plot holders did attend and those there enjoyed the evening.

TREASURERS REPORT: Feast Treasure Hunt BBQ took £115.00 this was split 50/50 between the Feast & Allotments.

Pie & Mash night took £100

Feast BBQ & Tea Tent took £263.00 this was split 50/50 between the Feast & Allotments.

Phil Rippingale Donated £100 to the Allotments

Money Out £1178.61 Money In £797.81 Cash £300.97 Bank £1129.46

Total £1430.00

MEETING WITH PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Doreen, Trevor & Angela met with a few of the councillors where they asked if the Allotment holders would like to consider taking over control of running of the allotments themselves. Comments were asked for at our allotment meeting where there was a positive response. We would be able to apply for Grants (the PC are not able to) as well as set our own Rules, which would have to be agreed with the Parish Council beforehand.

The Majority agreed it would be a good idea.

FUND RAISING: Doreen commented on the replies to the questionnaire sent out to plot holders and as a result of the replies saying there was too much fundraising Trevor, Doreen & Stuart have decided not to be responsible for organise any more Fund Raising events. As money still needs to be brought into the Allotments please let us know if you would be interested in helping with getting involved in this or just able to help at any future events. Eva mentioned that every little helps no matter how small and any help would be gratefully received. The Mowers & Strimmer servicing, Petrol & general maintenance of the allotments still needs to be paid for so if no one is willing to help raise the funds needed then the only alternative would be for subs to go up, which is not the best way forward.

Trevor said that all the fundraising done in the past 12 months was split 50/50 with the allotments and local charities so benefitting the village as a whole.

The Open Day will still be kept going once a year. Julie suggested maybe putting on less events & just concentrating on key events.

Doreen asked if anyone wanted to take on the organising & running of the Table Top Sale which is already booked at the Village Hall, no one at the meeting was forthcoming.

Trevor said that he will still be helping the Beer Festival this year by providing the BBQ but that the funds will not be given to the Allotments as originally agreed but will give them to a charity of his choice.

Paul Caston commended the Fund Raising Committee on all their hard work.

Paul Watkins said he would be happy to service the Mowers in the future, he was thanked for his offer, this will help to save on costs.

CHEEKY MONKEYS: Doreen spoke to Wendy regarding the cheeky Monkey's Plot as it has not been used at all this year. She said they only wanted the 3 raised beds and not the whole plot. As that was about a month ago and still no work has been carried out it was agreed that the secretary write to the Cheeky Monkeys giving them a months notice.

PUSH MOWER WITH ENGINE: A small mower is needed to cut the areas of grass inaccessible by the Ride on Mower. Phil Read has offered the use of his mower, it was agreed that this was a very generous offer but it was felt that long term it would be better to purchase our own new mower. Trevor agreed to price one up. The majority agreed.

INSURANCE: Angela mentioned that the allotments do not have their own insurance and will look into this re costing, coverage needed etc.

PLOT HOLDER BENEFITS: Angela suggested asking plot holders whether they would be interested in buying any bulk bought Bags of Compost, Seed Potato's, Onion Sets. Although there were a lot of negative comments about this happening it was agreed to ask plot holders their opinions and whether they would be interested in supporting it if it went ahead.

John Scholes kindly offered to store any bulky items purchased, thanks were given to him.

Paul Watkins suggested us having a Spare Seeds Bank for any excess seeds, this was agreed as a good idea and will be pursued.

NEW STRIP LAND: We have been told by the Parish Council that we will get the new strip of land eventually but at the present time they are unable to give us a timescale but will keep us updated.

A.O.B. The monthly BBQ's will continue

The Bonfire Night Celebrations will still go ahead, details to be organised by those willing to be involved in running this event.

Meeting Closed 9.30pm

