

# **Minutes of the Inaugural AGM of Frodsham Town Allotments Association.**

The meeting was held at Frodsham Community Centre on Wed 28<sup>th</sup> May 2014.

## **Apologies:**

Peter Vickery, Geoff Wollard  
Barrie Howarth, Bill Ashton

## **Introduction:**

The Chairman welcomed Andrea Hallisey and Alan Hull, as representatives of the National and North West Area Allotments association, together with Linda Brown who was representing Frodsham Town Council

## **Election of Officers:**

Chairman: The meeting duly elected Dave Thomas as Chairman.

Vice Chairman: The meeting duly elected Idris Roberts as Vice Chairman.

Secretary: In his absence the meeting duly elected Peter Vickery as Secretary.

Treasurer: In the absence of any nominations, Steve McEntee volunteered to be Treasurer

## **Adoption of Constitution:**

The draft Constitution as presented to the meeting was debated section by section. There were some amendments made, due to the fact that the draft constitution was made out for a self governing Allotment Association, which we are not.

After some detailed discussion, and helpful input from the Federation Representatives and the Town Council, the new Constitution was agreed and adopted by the meeting.

## **Open Discussion:**

The meeting agreed that the Annual Subscription should be £5, this charge to cover individual membership of the National Allotment Association and affiliation to the North West Federation.

It was agreed that the annual subscription be mandatory, and it was proposed that the Town Council collect this payment in addition to the annual rental payment. It was considered that this would be the most straightforward method. Linda Brown agreed to put this proposal to the Town Council and report back.

It was mentioned that there is also provision for the Town Council to join the National Allotment Association at an annual cost of £55.

As it would not be possible to introduce this collection system for the current year 2014, it was agreed that each site representative should endeavour to collect the subscription from each of the individual site members.

Linda agreed to check, with the Town Clerk, on the status of the Town Allotments, are they protected?

Alan Hull, North West Area Representative, pointed out the various advantages of being a member of the National Association, one of which was legal cover should it be required. Alan stated that there may be a possibility of the Federation may be able to offer a small grant towards the cost of room hire for subsequent meetings.

Alan also considered that in view of the low attendance there should be a follow up meeting to inform those members who were unable to attend.

It was stated that we have held meetings previously in the local pub, the meeting decided that these should continue on an informal basis as at present.

It was also agreed, that in future, it may be advantageous to hold quarterly meetings on a more formal basis.

Andrea Hallisey, went on to further explain that being members of the Federation made it possible to apply for improvement grants. One example could be the provision of a water supply to the London Road and Kingsway sites.

Andrea also suggested that membership cards be issued to individual members as it made them feel more part of the group. Vista Print was recommended as a supplier for the cards, being relatively cheap, in the region of £8.

Kings Seeds also operate a discount scheme, whereby they discount orders over a certain figure, this is to encourage bulk ordering amongst the members. Andrea stated that Kings issue a catalogue detailing all their products and discounts etc.

Brian Twiss mentioned the possibility to purchase gardening supplies, fertiliser, compost, etc from a group at the Ex Servicemen's Club in Helsby on Saturday mornings.

All the members present paid their annual subscriptions to the Association.

The Chairman thanked the members for attending, he also thanked Andrea and Bill for their expert advice, and Linda for pointing out the Town Council's views.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 21:00 Hrs