



County Body and Regional Panel 3 for the National Allotment Society.

## Minutes

25<sup>th</sup> January 2015-01-25

St Mary's Church Hall, Penwortham

**Attended:** Chairman, Alan Hull. Secretary, Andrea Hallissey. Treasurer, Derek Cooper. Regional Director, Andy Percival. Plus 35 Association/Federation Representatives.

**Apologise:** Tony Niblock, Steve Martin, Cath Holmes, Les Coombes, Don Booth, Bill Taylor and Trafford Federation.

**Chairman's Welcome.** The meeting began with Alan Hull expressing his thanks to the members of Penwortham Holme West for agreeing to host the meeting. Along with a short explanation as to the reasons the Exec Committee had not been performing as it should over the past 6 months.

**Minute's previous meeting.** Agreed and second by AMAS and John Irwin

**Matter's arising from Minutes.** Explanation for those members not present at the 2014 AGM regarding the withdrawal of the annual rebate. The Exec Committee had agreed to look into a grant scheme to replace the previous system but due to events had not as yet completed a draft for the new scheme. This matter will be rectified.

**Regional Directors Report.** Andy proceeded to give an explanation to the members for the reasons he had stepped down as NAS Chairman. Listing health problems and ongoing disagreements with the elected NAS President. He gave a short report as to his continued involvement with the movement and assured the members that he would remain in place and continue to push forward long needed improvements to the way NAS operates. He encouraged more involvement by NW members to help improve the visibility of NAS and NWCAA , both in the NW and Nationally. There followed a short question and answer session regarding NAS involvement and procedures in various cases around the Country including Heye's Lane, Alderley Edge.

**Secretary Report.** Andrea apologised for being unavailable over the last couple of months due to family issues. These issues are ongoing and could again affect her involvement in NWCAA matters.

Request was made for more involvement in both the website and facebook page, both of which had proved successful over the last 12 months. Areas covered involved the distribution of NAS leaflets(contact the secretary for details), venues for future meetings, items for the NAS magazine, issue of Insurance details(supplied by NAS), promotional items(contact the secretary for details and ordering) and a plea to those members listed as contact details for Associations to pass on NWCAA newsletter and details to their members.

Nomination forms for the NWCAA Awards and vacant position of Treasurer sent out to Associations before Christmas had been slow to be returned. Please return nomination forms before the 15<sup>th</sup> February.

Meeting dates for NWCAA Forum 2015. ( times and arrangements supplied nearer the date).

17<sup>th</sup> May – Frodsham Community Centre. Hosted by Frodsham Town Allotments

27<sup>th</sup> September – Heaton Park. Manchester. Hosted by AMAS

**Treasurers Report.** Alan introduced Derek as a replacement for Terry. Terry stood down at the last AGM due to bad health. Alan thanked Derek for agreeing to take up the post until nominations for the post at the AGM in March. He once again expressed his concern and best wishes to Terry.

As it stands the bank balance to date £904.88. Balance sheets made available.

The NWCAA now has display boards, banners and information that can be made available for members use (Contact secretary for details).

**Mentors Report.** Work load around the region has again increased over the last 12 month. With advice being sort from Councils, Parish Councils and members. He again repeated that it is not the NWCAA policy to be involved in personal disagreements within Associations.

Special mention for Don Booth and his Salford Federation Team for their hard work in reopening neglected sites over the last year along with Stockport's work to set up their Federation. He was also pleased to report that we can expect at least 3 new sites opening in North West in 2015

**Member's reports.** Reports filed, Wirral and West Lancs Allotment Federation (attached). Short reports given by Tameside regarding rents, Stockport on the changes being put in place to improve the operation of their Federation with special mention for Patricia Scott. AMAS

successfully working with their Council. Rosendale with their ongoing Council discussions and membership difficulties.

**Show Dates.** It was agreed that NWCAA will be involved in 4 Shows for 2014

Southport Flower Show, Holker Hall, Wirral and Manchester Flower Show.

Requests will go to area Federations to take on attendance at smaller shows to promote NAS around the region.

**NWCAA AGM 2015.** The AGM will be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 at The Royal Clifton Hotel. The Osborne Suite 2. Southport. Details will follow via the secretary once all arrangements have been finalised.

It is proposed to hold workshops before the NWCAA meeting.

Fundraising workshop and A Guide to Self Management. Volunteers will be asked to help support these workshops.

The National Allotment Society AGM 6<sup>th</sup> June 2015 Woodland Grange Conference Centre, Leamington Spa details will appear in the next NAS Allotment magazine.

**AOB.** David Clough enquired as to the operation on My Colony self management system. Andy will action his request. Contact will be made to Colony to attend the AGM workshop.

Steve Smith made reference to recent break-ins on allotments. Mention was made of the good work followed up in Salford with the setting up of their Allotment Watch scheme and working with Community Pay Back.

Meeting closed with thanks from everybody to Penwortham Holme West for their hospitality and excellent buffet. Thanks also extended to those members who had taken the time to attend the meeting.