

Frodsham Town Allotments Association

Minutes of Meeting Held at the Bulls Head Frodsham on July 7th 2014

Present: Dave Thomas (Chairman), Peter Vickery, Kim Davies, Brian Twiss, Linda Tyson, Cara Balshaw, Angela Pennington, Steve McEntee

The minutes of the Minutes of AGM held on May 28th 2014 were approved; proposed by Dave Thomas and seconded by Brian Twiss. The draft Constitution of the Association had been agreed at the AGM with amendments agreed at the meeting.

It had been agreed at the AGM that Subscriptions (£5) would be collected by the Association this year (2014-15); from next year these would be collected by the Town Council through the annual Rent for each plot.

Peter Vickery would send out an email for all outstanding 2014-15 subscriptions. Cheques should be made payable to the Frodsham Town Allotments Association; Steve has now set up the Bank Account.

The meeting discussed the actual benefits that members of the Association would get. These were agreed as being primarily access to Grants by virtue of being an Association, help with problems on individual plots and sites that could be more effectively resolved by an approach from the Association rather than any individual and discounts from suppliers when dealing with the Association. Water was only available at the Ashton Drive site and this was maybe an area to explore getting grant support, though metering costs would have to be considered.

Dave Thomas agreed to apply for the Kings Seeds catalogue and also for details of how to get supplies from the Helsby Residents Association available on Saturday mornings from the Eccies Club for which there was a £1.50 subscription. Note, the details are included on the email along with these minutes.

Dave had also downloaded a Grant application form from the Big Lottery Fund and handed these to Peter for a closer look.

The meeting discussed what plot holders actually get for the £25 annual rent currently and what it gets spent on? Members were aware of the following:

Water rate and lease (Ashton Drive), maintenance and administration costs.

Peter Vickery agreed to ask for a precise breakdown from the Town Council from Linda Brown and to send her the minutes of the AGM and Constitution.

Members also noted the following:

Apparently, UK law says people can keep chickens on sites.

Has a deal been done on the repairs to the London Road site?

Is there a new plot holder for Ken Crouch's London Road Site?

What is the exact status of each of the 3 sites? Apparently there are 2 types depending on the length of time they have been allotments. This especially applies to the Kingsway site. Peter Vickery agreed to email Linda Brown and ask.

The sale of land next to path up to the Kingsway site will restrict access. If we want a water supply then we will have to move fast.

Post boxes for documents to circulate would be useful though the location; either one for each site or centrally at, say, the Library would need to be agreed. Peter Vickery would ask Ann Scriven at the Town Council Office if there were funds available.

As we are all keeping the sites tidy by doing most of the perimeter and path maintenance ourselves, could the Town Council collect the cuttings and supply Green bins? Peter Vickery would pass the request on to Linda Brown at the Council

Peter Vickery receives a lot of email information from the Allotment Associations that not all members might welcome being routinely passed on. Peter agreed to pass the material on to Steve for possible addition to the Web Site and to representatives from each site.

The meeting was then closed and the next meeting would be on a Monday in September, same time and location; exact date to be advised.