**MINUTES**

**EWAA Annual General Meeting - 2017**

Sunday, 1st October, 2017 [10.00 – 11.00]

**Chair:** Clare Ferguson

**Minutes:** Meryl Wilford

**Present**: Chris Flett, Dan Thorpe, Jane Millar, Jane Nimmo-Smith, John Butler, Jon Willis, Nicola Jones, Sarah Pollard, Tony Flett, Pat Mansfield, Louise Evans, Jevon Lancaster, Chris Clifford, Vicky Bell, Amy Wardell, Lily Martyn, (Merryn Close), Simon Bazley, Josie Procter, Rich Ellis, Ernesto Gomez, Danny Jack

1. **Apologies:** Stewart Young, Helen Edwards, Mo Leen
2. **Minutes of AGM, 29th Sept 2016**

No comments. Approved

1. **Chair’s Report**

* Thanks to everyone for attending the AGM at the new time. We wanted to see if a daytime slot resulted in more people attending and this seems to have been the case.
* It has been a good year for crops including the apple harvest...
* Jevon has done a great job as Membership Secretary allocating available plots to new members and keeping brisk turnover of plots.
* Site matters: Chris Parker has been working with Urban Wildlife Group (site adjoining the allotment site) in order to keep on top of boundary issues, but has now stepped down. This will probably be more straightforward in future as the OUWG are in the process of reorganisation. Chris Clifford will now take over the role of liaising with the group.
* The White House project is still derelict although a group has been chosen to make use of the site as a children’s playgroup. Once the work gets underway, the first step will be to fence off the area and make it separate from EWAA site with an independent access gate.
* The water butts project is to get underway shortly as work needs to begin before the winter weather starts.
* There has been an issue with the removal of produce from plots. Allotment holders have been reminded not to help themselves to produce on other plots even when it seems that the crop is not being harvested. If members think that crops are going to waste then please contact Membership Secretary or Chair and they will contact the relevant plotholders to seek permission.
* The apple pressing was the main social event organised last year and the annual apple pressing will be on again next week on Sunday 8th October at 2.00-5.00.
* A big “Thank You” to everyone who has contributed to the smooth running of the allotment in the past year.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

* There is a very healthy balance of about £10,000
* This is up from previous year by about £2,000 because we still have not used the grant of £1,500 received for the water butt project, and also because the current rent due to the council of £800 is still owing for the site.
* There is a slightly smaller profit on the shop sales but this is because prices have been kept to a minimum to benefit members.
* Any suggestions for alternative products in the shop would be welcomed.

1. **Election of Committee for 2017-1**
2. Election of officers (proposed and seconded)

* **Chair:** *Clare Ferguson*
* **Treasurer**: *Nicola Jones*
* **Shop Officer**: *Jon Willis*
  + - **Assistant Shop Officer & Machinery Officer**: *Tony Flett*
* **Membership Secretary:**  *Jevon Lancaster*
* **Minutes Secretary:** *Meryl Wilford*
* **Oxford Urban Wildlife Group Liaison Officer: \*** *Chris Clifford*

1. Approval of Committee members – no objections

* *Dan Thorpe*
* *Helen Edwards*
* *Stewart Young*
* *John Butler*
* *Peter Corcutt*
* *Jane Nimmo-Smith*
* *\*Josie Procter*
* *\*Simon Bazley*
* *\*Michael Yeadon*
* *\*Louise Evans*

1. Approval of non-committee shop duty only volunteers

* *AnnHelen Parker*
* *\*Amy Wardell*
* *\*Vicky Bell*
* *Bridget Henderson*
* *Josie Powell*

1. Trustees to continue in post [Meryl Wilford, Pat Mansfield and Chris Parker]

* **Website Suppport:** \**Rich Ellis, Mike Harris*

1. **Rent: 2017-2018**

No increase proposed but slight adjustments made to payments on a couple of small plots. Rent decrease proposed but not seconded.

Rent days: October 1st and 8th 2017, October 7th and 14th 2018

1. **AOB**

Question about whether it would be possible to have more machinery available for hire by members. Explanation about previous experience with this and reasons why machinery is no longer hired out for general use by the membership due chiefly to constant problems with repairs.

Suggestion that if the Association purchased a generator then members could use relatively inexpensive electric-powered strimmers etc more easily. Suggestion to be proposed and discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Site maintenance group comprises: Jon Willis, John Butler, Peter Corcutt, Dan Thorpe, Ernesto Gomez. This group will supervise site maintenance as agreed by the committee and try and ensure this work is either carried out by contractors; completed by volunteers; or, completed by work parties.