*After a blazing sunset, the atmosphere was electric as thunder rumbled in the distance.*

**EWAA Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday 15 September 2016, 7.30pm**

Chair: Julian Stern

Present: Jon Willis, John Butler, Antoine Flett, Stewart Young, Clare Ferguson, Sarah Pollard, Jane NS.

1. **Apologies**

Jane Millar, Peter Corcutt, Chris Harris, George Murray, Helen Edwards. , Pat Mansfield

1. **Minutes of last meeting** (14-07-16): approved.
2. **Membership matters and early October plot inspection**

* At least 4 plots have not been cultivated for some time. Discussion about whether these plot holders will continue or not as members.
* About 8 people who are on the waiting list are keen to take on plots.
* 9th and 16th October are rent days so new plot inspection suggested for Sunday 25th of September.

1. **Finance / shop / machinery**

* Very little change in finances apart from purchase of new lawnmower.
* A new grant application for water taps/ butts has now gone in and decision will be taken by council sometime in October.
* Sarah will be standing down as shop officer.
* Thanks to Sarah for all her hard work organising the shop up until now.
* Both petrol mowers are working well.
* Toro to go in for service.
* New shed roof holding up well.

1. **AGM - nominations for 2016-17 officers. Other arrangements and agenda.**

* Discussion about possible volunteers to take on roles. George Murray has resigned as lettings secretary; Julian standing down as president.
* Agenda for AGM:
* -Election of 6 officers (president, vice president, secretary, lettings secretary, shop officer and treasurer)
* -reports
* -Dates for rent days
* -Work party rule
* -Dates for work parties and apple pressing

1. **OUWG update (including slow worms)**

* Julian to talk to Chris about cutting back of vegetation on shared path as this was not carried out by OUWG.
* OUWG have notified EWAA that they are planning to introduce slow worms (should we add this to agenda at AGM so people are not alarmed if they find “snakes” on the allotment?)

1. **Planning for next few months**

* Rent dates: 9th & 16th Oct.
* Date for “Big Autumn Work Party”: weekend 12th and 13th November.
* Skip to be booked before work party (by Stuart.)
* Refreshments to be served at work party and AGM
* Apple pressing to be held on 9th October, same date as 1st rent day
* 4th Oct there is ODFAA meeting if anyone available to attend.

1. **AOB:**

* Front gate needs padlock and chain so it is closed properly. Also a sign to remind people to close the gate.
* 29th September: lease on White House project ends.
* Julian to contact the council to see if council could repair the fencing for wood chipping gate entrance.

**Date of next meeting: AGM 29th September, 2016**