**Tuesday 10th May 2022, 7.30pm, SHOP**

**Present:** Meryl Wilford, Clare Ferguson, Tony Flett, Simon Bazley, Pat Mansfield, Sarah Pollard, Mike Yeadon, Jon Willis, Mike McNaboe, Dan Thorpe, , Renata Retallack

1. **Apologies** [Bridget Henderson, George Murray, Chris Clifford ]
2. **Minutes of last meeting** and matters arising (Draft on EWAA website under Rules and Information tab) – No matters arising
3. **Chair report**

* **Lease matters:** carpark by woodchip gate. Chris will draft another letter to the council restating our desire to have the carpark included as part of the lease agreement in order to protect our established right of access through this carpark and use of it for EWAA parking.
* **Asbestos**. Maylarch, the waste disposal firm, removed all the asbestos on EWAA and OUWG sites on April 25, 26 and 27. Work was paid for by a grant from the council thanks to application made through OUWG.
* **Pollination advice.** Suggestion from Pat that we provide more information about planting to encourage and support pollinating insects.

MW and CF to put something on website.

1. **Membership report**

* **Inspection report.** Plot inspection was carried out on 30th April resulting in 10 plots being sent warning letters. 2 plotholders gave up their plots; 2 explained lack of cultivation; 6 will be inspected again on 2nd of June. 15 people have left the waiting list but there are still 65 people on the list. 6 half plots have recently been let. There are 9 vacant half plots available however several are now quite overgrown and possibly difficult to let.
* **Discussion about whether to strim overgrown plots to make them more attractive for new plotholders.** Decision to wait until the next group on waiting list have viewed plots at the beginning of June.

DT could advise on budget for using brush cutter on plot which is overgrown with brambles.

* **Discussion about the need to manage site maintenance.** When plots become vacant, they quickly become overgrown and unmanageable so need to be covered with mipex. This would need to be overseen by volunteers or alternatively, fees paid for maintenance work from EWAA funds.

JW to put forward a proposal for rent increase to cover maintenance.

1. **Treasurer report**

* **Expenditure has increased** this month with approx.. £1,200 spent on various expenses:

Skip £377 + £474

Mower maintenance £117

Hire of digger and water plumbing £270

* **Bank account address** needs to be changed.

JW and SB to go to bank.

1. **Restore plant sale and shop opening 22nd May**

Plant sale to take place in the social area . Shop also to open with Mike and Jane on duty. JM will advertise what is available on the website: canes, mipex and netting.

1. **Site matters**

* Water supply and water butt – thanks to Dan and Mike for overseeing this.
* Skip – thanks especially to Mike for packing the skip
* 2nd skip to be ordered and placed so it does not block Children’s Allotment. MW/ JW to write notice for website to publicise.
* Proposal that there is a “permanent” place for recycling metal even when the skip is no longer there as the metal recycling van will collect whenever we have a sizable load for them.

1. **Any Other Business**

Date of next meeting – Thursday July 7th 2022