**Thursday 17th November 2022, 7.30pm, SHOP**

1. **Apologies [Tony Flett, Dan Thorpe, and Pat Mansfield]**
2. **Present:** Meryl Wilford, Nina Allen, Mike Yeadon, Jon Willis, Sarah Pollard, Simon Bazley, Jane Millar, George Murray, Michael McNaboe, Clare Ferguson
3. **Minutes of September meeting** and matters arising

Fallen willow branch – still waiting for ODS to give the go ahead to the contractors to remove the limb or pollard the tree.

Mike Yeadon met a Man From The Council who had come to survey the trees. Noted that across ODFAA sites never know when or if their trees have been surveyed.

1. **Chair report**

Update on ODFAA

Request to have a beehive on site received from a plotholder – declined

Meryl still intending to contact councillors over rights of way/tenure of the woodchip car park. It appears the plans have been approved for access to the rear property to be via the car park

1. **Membership report**

62 still on waiting list, 4 half plots are let and one person is looking tomorrow, and 1.5 outstanding after inspection 206b

Question raised over the possible installation of a yurt on the shop road.

Jane has reinforced the rule that permission must be sought for the erection of structure.

Mike is considering letting plot 116 in thirds instead of halfs and quarters, which may complicate the maths etc

Next inspection is due in March. With the ongoing high demand, there is scope to tighten our requirements/enforcement that people manage their plots effectively.

Tree heights: Conflict arises re shading of neighbours plots. George will draw up a process for how we’ll enforce tree heights on plots, and manage trees on internal boundaries (the council manage external boundary trees). We could invest in a long handled pruner.

Paths are also an issue and must be maintained. Some plot holders seem to have dug them over or stored items on them. George will also put some text together on this re responsibility.

Some plotholders emails are still invalid and need updating. Jon Willis is looking into this.

1. **Treasurer report**

Seven rents are still outstanding. We don’t have a hard deadline currently.

We have spent £1200 on getting stock in to reopen the shop.

We received £3700 in rent

We paid OCC rent and water bill, totalling roughly £600 so far,

We currently have £6000 in the current account.

Jon looked into liability insurance for trustees, but it’s quite expensive (c£400) and didn’t seem appropriate.

The ride on mower we had proposed to buy was not useable ultimately

1. **Shop report**

The shop has reopened on Sunday mornings

Sold out of garlic and compost already. Red onions are more popular than white.

Potatoes will arrive end of Feb,

Alliums – notice went out to nearby sites to come and buy them

From December we will open only by request until the potatoes come in

1. **ODFAA meeting**

On 22nd Nov Tues at 7pm ODFAA are offering a refresher course on zoom on setting up co-ops if anyone would like to attend. Then the actual ODFAA meeting is on 28th Nov.

We need to decide whether to incorporate as a co-op or something else. Jon is happy to do the accounting work. If we switch to a co-op the membership would have to participate – it’s not clear that this would happen. Jon and George will attend the ODFAA zoom and report back via email re best options.

1. **OUWG**

Open day this Sunday.

They are planning to lay another hedge along the George Liddell’s plot on the middle road, and another one on the shop road. This will mean the whole boundary has been dealt with.

1. **Site matters**

Water will be turned off and plotholders notified at the first frost.

Brief discussion of memorial trees and benches, the risks of setting a precedent and ending up with lots, and the same risk for plaques on benches.

The last work parties were successful, and we have a date for the next ones.

We have money we intend to use to pay Dan to do jobs on site as necessary. ODFAA have warned about another series of targeted break-ins at site shops and machine stores so we could consider action.

1. **Any Other Business**

Date of next meeting: 12th January 2023