

Minutes of EWAA Committee Meeting

11th September, 2025

Present: Maurice Leen, Dan Thorpe, Mike McNaboe, Jane Millar, Meryl Wilford, Jon Willis

Apologies: Chris Clifford, Vicky Bell, George Murray, Tony Flett, Janita Good

Matters Arising: Minutes of last meeting were approved.

We need to confirm whether the point below has been actioned.

Action Point. CC to fwd info on potential software package for registration scheme to GM.

We are still waiting on TCA's PLI document. Typo regarding who was to action-should be JW, not JM.

Action Point. JW to pursue document.

Financial Report: JW has completed final year accounts. Balance across both accounts totals at c.£13,000. Shop sales hardware is in place subject to a few glitches around connectivity.

Clare F has been contracted to clear plots and will be asked to tidy up shop car park.

Action Point: JW to inform Clare of request.

Membership Report: Since the last Committee meeting 9 people on the waiting have been invited to a series of allocation meeting and we have welcomed 3 new allotmenters. The

reason the figure of take up is low is that a lot of the people invited were on holiday.

The waiting list now stands at 33 with the oldest name on the list being 19 May 2025.

We have 5 vacant plots that are in medium condition totalling 17.5 poles. (Two of these plots have only become available in last few days). There are a further 7 plots totalling 35 poles that have been abandoned are now very overgrown and vacant for over a year.

New Structure of Organisation: Janita couldn't attend meeting so decided to defer discussion. Resolved to collate list of queries to be sent to Janita.

Action Point: Committee are to review Memorandum/Articles document and send queries to JM by 19th September

AGM: Deadlines- 21st September Notice of AGM. Nominations/Proposals 5th October

Proposal for AGM that rent rises should be flat cash figure rather percentage. Effect will be to increase the relative charge of smaller plots to larger ones reflecting fact that smaller plots do not mean smaller admin time and costs. Above inflation increase necessary due to new relationship with OCC that will see declining financial and logistical support in future.

Action Point: Mo to draft rent rise proposal of £5 per plot irrespective of size.

New committee members: five people responded to the appeal for volunteers. JM & GM are in conversation with them about communications and admin tasks, managing membership, and running the shop.

Lease Update: We are waiting for ODFAA and OCC to update situation following meeting at St Aldates. Still concerns over drafting of members' direct relationship with OCC.

Thefts, ASB and Security: Amy has put up notice on website. GM to be asked to email a plothead on shop lane regarding a family member's attitude towards locking gate. Shop gate (small) is being regularly left unlocked/wide open. JW to pursue use of GoPro type cameras to be positioned in discrete, strategic locations and moved around on regular basis.

It was noted that the nature of thefts means that it is most likely an on-site problem with members most likely to be culprits. People have been challenged for taking fruit without express permission.

Action Point: GM to be asked to contact relevant member regarding necessity to lock gates.

Bonfire Ban: This has now been lifted.

Action Point: JM liaise with Amy to post website update to members.

Proposed that timber waste near shop should be burned on 8th November, starting early morning and continuing throughout the day. A rota of volunteers to fire-tend will be collated at the AGM.

Secretary's note- *should we reconsider date since Fire Brigade are usually more stretched at this weekend of the year?*

AOB: Dogs: have now been banned from Nature reserve (apart from support). We need a more strongly worded warning to members regarding supervision of dogs onsite pointing out possibility of a matching ban on site if situation deteriorates further.

TCA agreement: They would like a formal agreement regarding access to their site via EWAA. JW and JM have contact details for two reps from the re-invigorated group.

Action Point: JW to draft agreement with CA

Date of Next Meeting-13th November 2025