

COTTONMILL AND NUNNERY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting on Tuesday 17th July 2018 The White Lion, Sopwell Lane, St Albans

PRESENT:

Keith Reynolds (Chairman)
Terry Beckett (Cottonmill Plot Officer, Treasurer)
Janet Wyatt (Secretary)
Michelle Mackenzie (Facebook Administrator, Cottonmill Site Representative)
Juliet Foxwell (Website Developer & Administrator)
Erica Weindorf (Project Officer)
Maria Jose Martin (Sopwell Site Representative)

APOLOGIES:

Jane Ridge (Nunnery Site Representative)
Jane Fookes (Newsletter Editor) (JFk)
Paul Littlewood (Ver Project Sub-group)
Helen Littlewood (Ver Project Sub-group)

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting on 15th May 2018 were agreed as an accurate record. These will now be placed on the CNAA website.

2. ACTION UPDATE and MATTERS ARISING

CNAA requires a Privacy Policy to include on its website and an initial draft will be prepared and circulated for comment. **Action JW**

3. REPORTS

3.1 Cottonmill

There are seven vacancies, two NCNs in place and no one on the waiting list. Waiting list is still closed.

3.2 Sopwell

No vacancies, nine on the waiting list and five on NCNs.

3.3 Nunnery

Two vacancies on N1 and one on the waiting list. One vacancy for N2 with five on the waiting list.

These sites have received deliveries of compost (unsolicited) and wood chip (solicited).

JR was advised by Phil Bruce-Green that the waiting list would open shortly.

3.4 Communications - Facebook, Website & Newsletter

- Facebook- A request was made for Liam Dennis' address to send him a letter.
- News Letter- Next due after the Summer Show. The next Committee meeting will identify any material that needs to be included as well as a report on the Show.
- Website - this will be updated with communication sent to Council before the open meeting on 12th July. **Action: JW to circulate this to the Committee. JFx to include on Website.**

3.6 Treasurer's Report, including membership update.

- Membership is 103 (including one life member). Cottonmill has 61, Nunnery 1 has 13, Nunnery 2 has 22 and Sopwell Mill has 7 members. As of 17th July income was reported as £1050. Net income was £970. Report attached.

4. Summer Show

This is to be on 19th August. A request was made for the Sub-aqua club to be opened the evening before to enable set-up.

KR tabled an altered category list that will be circulated by email for comments by Friday 20th July. JW will then send round by email to all members and this will be included on website. This is a members event but could be promoted on the non-member's section and on Facebook as it may bring in new members. **Action-all to comment before end of 20th July.**

Pumpkins to be moved to Pumpkin social to be judged there. It was suggested that the produce could also go to the pumpkin social - no firm decision on this.

Entry form - once categories agreed this will be sent via email for those who wish to print it off in advance or hard copies will be available in plastic notice holders at sites or on the day.

Entry cards- TB will order fresh supplies and EW will look into the source for these. **Action EW/TB**

Prizes-Contact Ayletts about collecting the cup and also ask if they can provide vouchers as prizes. **Action JW.**

Raffle - organise prizes - to be decided at next meeting.

There will not be a sharing lunch - maybe provide some crisps and nuts.

Judging-John Boden has agreed to judge and MM to assist. Naomi Distil to be asked if she will do the scoring again. **Action JW.**

5. River Ver and Verulamium Lake Improvement Project

JW and MM had attended the Council arranged meeting on 12th July and ran through the things that they had discussed.

- The Environment Agency had rolled out some of its experts (Wildlife and hydrology) to try to answer some of the issues we have raised about the groundwater level modelling and the poor state of biodiversity claimed in the proposals.
- JW spoke at length to Dan Flitton (SADC) who had received a communication from CNAA prior to this meeting setting out CNAA's outstanding issues. He apologised for not replying and promised to do so in writing. When challenged about the continued closure of the waiting lists he explained that plot holders on Cottonmill would be receiving letters inviting them to transfer to one of the other sites and only then, when the extent of interest was known, would the waiting list on Cottonmill be opened. He was more evasive about the opening of the other waiting lists. He didn't specify if Cottonmill plot holders would be given priority on the list nor if they would be offered any assistance to move.
- On the issue of the information available on groundwater level rises there was considerable amount of data offered supporting the EA's contention that the central part of Cottonmill would be liable for a significant increase in flooding incidents but interestingly, the revised plan suggests that there could be fewer plots sacrificed than previously thought.
- The wildlife issues were less convincingly articulated by the EA specialists and their assertion that wildlife, including kingfishers, would bounce back quickly even after major disturbance seemed fanciful. They cited a recent renovation at Broxbourne to support this claim. However, this was a minor project enhancing 1 kilometre of an existing river bed and not a wholesale destruction of a river to create a new route.
- We were assured that more detail of the analysis of the questionnaires would be published.
- The most important take-home message was that the current proposals are draft and that the preparation of the final outline proposals will give consideration to issues raised. These will be published before the end of the year and we will be able to inspect them.
- After this, there is to be a tender exercise for detailed proposals to be prepared and these will be fully costed. At this point the formal consultation process will start. More broad based meetings would be carried out under the consultation process.

Communication sent to SADC is to be included on CNAA website and also sent to Chris White - **Action KR to send to Chris White**

AOB

Arrangements for food bank contributions are being disrupted on Cotton-mill by someone putting the crate out at the wrong time. Also food is being left by an individual outside of the arrangement MM has made and this is causing difficulties for the food bank. MM is investigating and the crate has been removed from the communal shed to be stored elsewhere.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 7th August 2018, White Lion, Sopwell Lane. 19-30 start.

ACTION LIST

Data Protection	Prepare first draft of Privacy Policy and circulate to Committee	JW	
Communication to SADC before 12 July meeting	Circulate to Committee Place on Website Send to Chris White	JW JFx KR	
Summer Show Revised category list	Comment by 20th July Email to all members place on website	All JW JFx	
Entry form	Prepare and circulate to members. Copies to be placed in notice board holders and available on the day	JW	
Show cards	New ones to be sourced and purchased	EW/TB	
Prizes	Contact Aylett's for vouchers Purchase others eg cups Raffle- to be purchased	JW TB KR	
Scoring alongside judge	Contact Naomi Distill to see if she is willing to do this	JW	
Arrange cup collection	Contact Aylett's to arrange this	JW	

COTTONMILL AND NUNNERY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AS OF 17th July 2018

INCOME	
CAUSE	AMOUNT
Membership	£ 1,020.00
Compost	£ -
Kings Seeds	£ -
Sum/Show	£ -
Events	£ -
Donations	£ 30.00
Misc.	£ -
	<u>£1,050.00</u>
Net Income for the year	£970.00
Balance in fund brought forward	£1,830.89
Balance in fund carried forward	<u>£2,800.89</u>
 <u>Assets as at 1st April 2018</u>	
Barclays Bank	<u>£1,830.89</u>
Actual Increase/Decrease	<u>£970.00</u>

EXPENDITURE	
CAUSE	AMOUNT
R.H.S.	£ -
N.A.S.	£ -
Insurance	£ -
Compost	£ -
Kings Seeds	£ -
Summer Show	£ -
Events	£ -
Stationary	£ -
Printing Postage	£ -
Misc.	£ 80.00
	<u>£80.00</u>
 <u>Assets as at 17th July 2018</u>	
Barclays Bank	<u>£2,800.89</u>

