

ST THOMAS ALLOTMENT-HOLDERS ASSOCIATION

Committee Meeting: 21 March 2023

Venue: Royal British Legion Hall, Legion Way, Alphington

Draft Minutes

Attendance: John Butler, Bill Turner, Claire Richards, Chris Webb, Ron Blakey, Richard Brownbridge, Andy Harris, Charles Knill, Paul Collier, Rob Shields, Jim Turner, Becky Wells, Brian Young (observer)

Apologies: Ed Noonan.

1: Minutes of the meeting on 17.01.2023 approved and signed

1.2: **Matters Arising.** Paul has checked in the Veg Box for documents from the STAA archive and the Annual Show but there was very little. He will pass anything to John. Some show trophies have been returned. John will pass copied documents to Becky for storage.

3: ECC: Amanda Ziff has sent a list of the Admin Fees ECC thinks are outstanding. Bill asked that Let&Check officers see if they agree with them, based on their records. The Fees should be paid in the next 2 weeks. Emma Henry will keep a spread sheet of plots let in future so that we have our own records.

3.1 Allotments Forum: A proposal was made to eventually phase out bonfires. John will write to suggest smaller windows of opportunity rather than a full ban. Forum minutes will be posted to notice boards to inform tenants. John will ask ECC about toilet maintenance.

4: Finance Report

5:

5.1 A new supplier has been found for the **Trading Sheds** but prices and delivery costs have increased very considerably and this must be reflected in the prices charged to tenants. The team continue to search for cheaper options where possible.

5.2 There are 2 plots unlet in the **Polytunnel**. Paul Tregonning is chasing 4 rents due.

5.3 The **Let&Check** visits to sites where there is no team (Ide Lane, Newman Road, Guys&Hilton) will begin in the week after Easter. Claire +1 will do Regent Street, John & Bill will visit Newman Road, Richard will visit Ide Lane and John, Chris, Richard & Bill will do Guys&Hilton. A team from Pincis will join the Cowick Lane team on 15 April to see how they check plots.

6: Events

6.1: Chris gave the update about the **Annual Show**. The draft schedule was approved and Chris will get quotes for the printing. John will send copies of the poster and the schedule to site reps for display. Ron will circulate the Forum WhatsApp group to ask for independent judges. There will be a call for cakes for the refreshments.

6.2 We have 262 followers on the **Face Book** page.

7: Site News: Becky will send a list of plants wanted for the new Cowick Lane Biodiversity Garden to Jim for inclusion on the website. A better strategy on skips needs to be found after problems at Cowick Lane.

8: AOB John had found and taken out a comprehensive **Insurance Policy** for STAA sites. A copy of the Schedule would be displayed on sites

Date of the next meeting 7.00pm, May 16 2023 at the British Legion Hall, Alphington

