

# BARNES HORTICULTURAL AND ALLOTMENT SOCIETY

## AGM MINUTES

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021 – Communal Garden at Hertford Avenue

### Present:

John Padgett	Katie Lee	
Alastair Kennedy	Rachel Walker	
Fiona Heath	Helen Lawrence	
Derek Lawrence-Brown	Moira Thomson	
Alex Clarke	Nicolette King	
Sophie Kennedy	Bob Crookham	
Nadia Mackenzie	Ben Gothard	
Halina Kessler	Cath Gothard	
Mark Gourlay	Viviana Williams	
Dino Franz	Warwick Radford	
Amani Orr Ewing		
Isobel Kimber		
Percy Kimber		

### 1) Welcome and Apologies

John Padgett (Chair) welcomed everybody to the delayed 2021 AGM, after not being able to hold a meeting in 2020 due to the Covid pandemic.

Apologies received from: Pam Islip, Janet Bostock, Penny Cowell, Susan Moore and Brenda Lattimer

### 2) Minutes of the AGM 16<sup>th</sup> June 2019

There were no amendments.

It was proposed by Amani Orr Ewing (AOE) and seconded by Rachel Walker (RW) that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.

### 3) **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### 4) **Reports**

John Padgett (JP) read the **Chair's Report** (attached).

Alastair Kennedy (AK) summarised the **Treasurer's Report** (attached). There were no questions regarding the accounts.

### 5) **Donations to Charity**

JP proposed donating a total of £400 to charity. Alex Clarke (AC) suggested as the Society was well funded from previous year's events, that we should increase our donation to £1,000. This was overwhelmingly approved.

The meeting agreed four charities to benefit; FiSH, Glass Door Homeless Charity, Dose of Nature mental health charity and Mind mental health charity are to receive £250 each.

JP reminded the meeting that charitable donations can be made from Events and Shed profits, but not from Society subscriptions. The Treasurer would identify the available 'pot' from which future charitable donations can be made. This is to be discussed at next AGM after treasurer clarifies the funding position.

### 6) **Appointment of Committee**

The posts of Joint Allotment Secretary, Minutes Secretary and Events Organiser are vacant. No candidates were nominated or came forward at the meeting. Please contact JP if you would like to know more about these roles.

Helen Lawrence interim appointment as Joint Allotment Secretary, Amani Orr Ewing interim appointment as Site Rep for Palewell Park, Moira Thomson interim appointment as Site Rep for The Triangle and Dino Franz interim appointment as Site Rep for Hertford plots 16-32, all stood uncontested for election.

All other committee members stood uncontested for re-election.

It was proposed by Alex Clarke (AC) and seconded by Derek Lawrence-Brown (DLB) that there be a block vote for the Committee posts. The vote for the proposed Committee was unanimous.

In addition, Katie Lee very kindly offered to help support Mark Gourlay with the Trading Shed operations. Katie will be responsible for scheduling the Shed rota volunteers from January 2022

## 7) Any Other Business

- a) Nicolette King (NK) informed the meeting that the Richmond Housing Partnership are looking for volunteer gardeners and also for donations of young Lavender, Sage, and Rosemary plants for block planting around homes on their estates in East Sheen, Mortlake and Barnes. JP agreed to publicise this in the Society newsletter in the Spring.
- b) The question of Security was raised by Halina Kessler (HK). Crops, such as just ripe apples, pears and gooseberries, have been stripped from plots. This must be human rather than animals as there was no dropped fruit below. JP advised netting trees, though this is not always possible due to the size of fruit trees. He stated that the allotments were patrolled periodically by the Richmond Parks enforcement team and notices stating 'These allotments are for **authorised persons only**' had been fixed to the main gates. No-one has ever actually seen or reported anyone stealing crops. Wildlife cameras purchased by individual plot holders and "you are being watched" laminated notices were discussed as helping to deter intruders. Nadia Mackenzie agreed to try to source some 'watching eyes' notices.
- c) Moira Thomson (MT) raised the question about the communication of deliveries of products to the more distant sites, other than Hertford and Priory. Also, the use of funds towards these more distant sites. JP explained the deliveries to the mulch and woodchip bays at Hertford were ad hoc but recently there has been a delivery every Friday. Funds for projects are available for all 5 sites and plot holders are encouraged to put their ideas to their site reps in the first instance.
- d) Alex Clarke suggested the Shed have a new set of Weighing Scales as the current ones are at the end of their life. JP will source.
- e) Post AGM, JP has been informed that the Council will be collecting non-compostable woody waste from Palewell, Pavilion and Hertford on Weds 24<sup>th</sup> and Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> November. Please note this is **woody waste only** – absolutely no green waste, plastic, metal or glass is allowed (this may jeopardise the whole collection).

JP told the meeting that after 5 years in the Chair, he was planning to step down at the next AGM in June 2022. This gives the Society 7 months to identify a successor.

JP closed the meeting at 12:50 by inviting everyone to enjoy some hot soup, tea and cake.