

DITTON ALLOTMENT TENANTS SOCIETY
AGM- 14TH APRIL 2016
DITTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

Attendance : Mike and Carol Hawksworth, Liz and Keith Holloway, Norma and Mark Webb, Ann and Ted Brown, Terry and Midge Smith, , Roy Jackson, Bob Kendall, Richard and Jackie Harris, Clive Thwaites, , David Pilcher, Harry and Rose Hall, Jan McCormack, Phil Osborne

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| Agenda 1. | <p><i>Apologies for absence</i> Mike welcomed everyone and explained that all the allotments were now taken, no new members were present this evening. Apologies were received from Dave and Shirley, Brenda Smith, Ken Knight, Maurice Garrett, Dave and Ann Osbaldson</p> |
| 2. | <p><i>Welcome to new allotment holders</i> All new allotment members had been sent a written invitation to come and join us, explaining the benefits of DATS, but unfortunately this invitation had not been taken up.</p> |
| 3. | <p><i>Minutes from last AGM</i> Mike again informed everyone that a copy of the minutes could be found on DATS website. Acceptance of these was proposed, seconded and carried.</p> |
| 4. | <p><i>Chairman's report and correspondence</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>General Thanks:</i> Liz and Keith for the supply of potatoes and onion sets. The onion sets were not very good however and a new supplier is being sort for next year, Thanks also to Ted and Ann for taking care of the raffles at our functions, Clive for helping with the BBQ and for organising the seed catalogues. • <i>Summer BBQ:</i> This had proved to be a good evening again and although the numbers were a bit down on previous years everyone who attended seemed to enjoy it also the French Night proved to be a good evening • <i>Christmas Social:</i> again the numbers were down, but a good evening was had by those that had attended. Thanks to the Bowls Club for use of their facilities • This year instead of having the usual raffle, we held Charity Auction in aid of various local charities. This proved to be very good and created a lot of fun and competition for people to outbid each other. The money raised was split between Heart of Kent Hospice, Cancer Research and Kent Air Ambulance. • <i>New Year Dinner:</i> Again a good meal at the Duke of Wellington • <i>Mike said that we had been informed that the AGM of the National Allotment Society was being held on 28th May at Tunbridge Wells if anyone wanted to attend.</i> • <i>Correspondence:</i> Discussion of this was deferred until AOB when it would be discussed in relation to the Toilet Block. • <i>Ditton Show:</i> Mike has the agenda, or it is available to view on the web site. • |
| 5. | <p><i>Treasurer's report</i></p> <p>Keith said it was a slightly better year this year than previously mainly due to additional money raised by the Charity Auction which more than covered the cost of the evening. Started year at £642.00 and ended up at £747.91. Mike proposed that the annual accounts be accepted, David seconded, all in agreement. Although we have increased the balance of money held it was suggested that the annual subs would have to rise to cover the increases in insurance and affiliation fees. It was suggested that the subs should go up to £8.00 and to £15.00 with the magazine. This was proposed and passed all in agreement.</p> |

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| 6. | <p><i>Election of Committee Members</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no new nominations, therefore the existing members had agreed to stand for another year. A block vote was taken on all nominees, proposed Ted, seconded Bob all in agreement. • The non elected management committee members have proved useful if assisting with running the club, however Bob has asked to stand down due to ill health and mark volunteered to act as a Management Committee member . |
| 7. | <p><i>Social Events for the year -</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQ at the allotments 23rd June • Suggested an English Garden party on August 4th to be confirmed • Petanque evening with supper at Duke of Wellington on 22nd September • Christmas Social with Auction to be held at Bowles Club on December 8th • New Year Meal at Duke of Wellington 25th January |
| 8. | <p><i>Robin Webb challenge trophy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a disappointing show of entries this year (3 in total). They were judged by David Pilcher, the winner was Mike, the runner up Mark and the third place was Liz. Mike has photographs of the entries. Norma said that she did not mind if the challenge faded out as most challenges had been met. It was decided to go ahead, but that the challenge would be more acceptable to more people, Mike's challenge would be the largest/heaviest onion, no roots and only 2 inches of foliage above the neck. This meant that onions could be harvested and kept until the weigh in at the end of September. |
| 9. | <p><i>A.O.B.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike said if anyone had any hints, photographs or recipes that could be shared on the website he would like to receive them • Again it was decided not worth doing a combined Kings Seed order this year as only a few people had taken advantage of this Keith would ask for a few catalogues and if anyone wanted to send in an individual order to contact him. They would receive the affiliated price catalogue which is the society rate. • Mike said that there had been considerable correspondence between him and the council to see if there was a way to provide a proper toilet facility. It was agreed that subject to permission from La Farge, who own the land, That the council would apply on our behalf for a Lottery Grant to pay for a proper toilet facility. It was also felt that if sufficient funds could be obtained then it would be a good idea to replace the existing hut at the same time. • Mike will get quotes and pursue this over the coming months. • It was also agreed to ask the council for permission to erect a weather proof notice board by the entrance to ensure that everyone was able to see more easily what was happening at the allotment site. • Keith is able to obtain supplies of chemicals , fertilizers netting etc from his contact at Herne Bay Allotments He has provided a very comprehensive price list which is published on the Web site . Please however do not order large or very bulky items unless you are prepared to go to Herne Bay to collect these. |
| | <p>Meeting closed at 09.30 pm</p> |