

DITTON ALLOTMENTS TENANTS SOCIETY 5th April 2018

Attendance: Mike (Chairman) and Carol Hawksworth, Keith (Treasurer) and Liz Holloway, Norma (Secretary) and Mark Webb, Ann and Ted Brown, Rose and Harry Hall, Clive Thwaites, Jackie and Dave Winder, Roy Jackson, Jan & Geoff McCormack, Brenda Smith, Phil Osbourne, Dave Ellison, Richard & Jackie Harris.

Agenda Item 1. Apologies for absence Welcome to new allotment holders

Mike welcomed everyone, particularly new allotments holders. Apologies were received from Terry & Midge Smith & Ann Osbaldstone.

Agenda Item 2. Minutes of the last AGM

Mike informed everyone that the minutes of all AGM meetings can be found alongside other information on the DATS website. The minutes were proposed seconded and unanimously carried.

Agenda Item 3. Chairman's report and correspondence

General thanks: to Liz and Keith for their help in ordering of onions and potatoes, Keith can also obtain most garden fertilisers and chemicals the web site holds a complete list, however anything bulky Keith would not be able to transport. Prices have not changed from last year.

Summer BBQ

Thanks to those who helped with the summer BBQ and those who attended. This year with the new building and the marquee we hope to have more BBQs this year, maybe at least three. Dates to be offered nearer the time.

Christmas Social

Thanks to the Bowls Club for use of their building as it is an ideal venue both for accessibility and bar! It is a profitable evening with the auction and raffle and the money raised this year went to the three charities supported by DATS, each receiving £30 each: Heart of Kent Hospice, Cancer Research and Air Ambulance.

New Year Meal at the Duke of Wellington

As with previous years the event was well attended and a good meal was provided at a reasonable cost, it was generally decided that this venue would be used again.

The new building would be discussed in any other business.

Agenda Item 4. Treasurers Report

Keith presented the detailed annual accounts stating that at the start of the financial year a balance of £798.18 was achieved. Although the lottery grant covered the cost of the building and the toilets and some fixtures and fittings, money would have to be used from "the kitty" for other items, to be discussed in Any Other Business. The original Public Liability Insurance was deemed to be too high when the building was added and another Insurance Company was approached and a more favourable quote agreed upon. The Shield

Insurance quote agreed, to include both Public Liability and insurance cover for the building is now £232.81 per year and the assembled meeting agreed unanimously that a sum of £5 would be added to the annual subscription for DATS members making sums payable and due of £13 and for members who subscribed to the allotment magazine £20 Bank balance as of 31st March 2018 was £649.31. With a refund of £52 from the previous Insurance Company agreed but not yet received.

Agenda Item 5 Election of Committee Members

Mike, Keith and Norma are willing to stand again this year...agreed unanimously by those attending.

Agenda Item 6 Social Events for the Year

Christmas Social at the Bowls Club

It was proposed that this year's event would be on Thursday 13th December 2018

New Year Meal - Duke of Wellington Ryarsh

It is proposed we carry on using this venue next year. The date proposed is Wednesday January 23rd 2019.

Summer BBQs to be notified, as and when.

Agenda Item 7. Robin Webb Trophy

This year's challenge, staying with the theme of sunflowers, was the most blooms on one plant. Norma thanked those who took part in the challenge and announced that the winner with 73 blooms was Phil Osbourne and second Debbie Barton with 40 blooms. Photographs to appear on the DATS website. This year's challenge would be the old favourite, tallest single plant. Good Luck

Agenda Item 8. AOB

Mike spoke about the new building, having successfully obtained a lottery grant of £10,000. It was suggested that a new name for the building would be agreed by members present. A list of possible names was circulated and the suggestion by Jackie Winder was unanimously chosen. The name of the new building will be "The Pea Pod" Ted Brown spoke about the amount of work Mike had put into obtaining the grant and on behalf of everyone thanked him for his hard work.

Mike explained how the Dry Separated Waterless Toilet system worked and the ancillary items e.g. wet wipes and sanitizers etc. to be found in the cubicle. Full instructions on how to use the toilet are situated on site. A digital key system has been installed for DATS members. Steps to both the main building and the toilets are to be erected shortly, together with a patio at an estimated cost of £400. Another coat of varnish and wire to the side window was also proposed. These works were agreed upon and unanimously carried. As funds are limited other items such as storage boxes extra chairs etc. will have to wait.

Mike explained that as part of the lottery grant conditions an Opening Ceremony would be arranged and local media informed. Tracy Crouch and a Junior MP were willing to attend and a date of Friday July 20th at 9.00am has been booked.

Meeting ended at approximately 9.30pm