

# GRAVEL PIT ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

www.gravelpitallotments.org.uk

## Minutes

Meeting held at 1.00 pm on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at The Stables, Meltonby

### **PRESENT**

Suzanne Allan (GPAA Chair)

Michael Atkin (GPAA Treasurer)

Denise Mitchell (GPAA Secretary and minute taker)

Steve Oxley

Andy Hancock

### **APOLOGIES**

None

|    |  | Action            |
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| 1. | <b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b><br>Accepted as a true record.   |                   |
| 2. | <b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Shipping container – Michael has this in hand</li><li>Extra funds (£10,440) received for topsoil. 580 tonnes now on field. Bill received. Cheque signed in readiness for paying.</li></ul>  |                   |
| 3. | <b>Treasurer's Report</b><br>A/c balance £10,981.78<br>Inturf bill received for £10,440 (topsoil)<br>New balance will be £541.78<br><br>We received £25.89 from Amazon and the table top sale made £138.15   |                   |
| 4. | <b>Progress and plan of action</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rabbit-proof fencing – Mark getting quote. Needs to be under £2000 if possible but cost of metal has increased since original quote obtained. Rabbits already digging! To be started as soon as possible. Should be completed in 3 months. Decided to hire mini digger to dig down for fences and also to lay drainage pipes at the same time. £300 allocated for drainage – decided to buy pipes now.</li><li>Steve to buy bird/bat nesting boxes this month. Looking for local supplier/producer.</li></ul> | Mark<br><br>Steve |

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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Official Opening. Michael to write to Prince Charles as he is now patron of NSALG. Opening to be any time from April 2012. If HRH not available need back up. MP 2<sup>nd</sup> choice. Suggestions for others welcome – ideally should be free of charge. Depending on availability might have official opening late spring/early summer and open day later in year. Check with Big Food for PR requirements. Steve to look out signs.</li> <li>• Michael to work on letterhead – Denise to send.</li> <li>• Suzanne thanked Andy for updating website and adding pictures. All agreed.</li> <li>• Sign. £203.50 allocated. Will be box construction on legs with glass doors. Should incorporate lottery logos.</li> </ul> <p><b>Plan of Action</b></p> <p>December – Fencing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bird boxes</li> <li>- Sign to be made</li> <li>- Drainage</li> </ul> <p>Container needed by February at the latest as the cross over is due to be done then and heavy machinery will not be able to enter the field.</p> | <p>Michael</p> <p>Michael/D<br/>enise</p> |
| 5. | <p><b>Plot Allocation</b></p> <p>Waiting list now has 21 names, including committee. Some not parish residents. PC tenancy agreement allows only four plot holders from outside the parish (Suzanne and three others). Some want half plot only. Denise to write to all on list and schools (Bishop Wilton, Fangfoss) to see if still interested.</p> <p>Plots available from April 2012</p> <p>Plots measure 21m x 5m (approx)</p> <p>Rent currently £25 p/a including NSALG membership. Will need to be recalculated in light of increased insurance costs when field equipped with buildings etc and water charges incurred. (Standing charge for water Sep-Mar £14.74)</p> <p>Tenancy agreement states payment must be received with one month.</p>  | Denise                                    |
| 6. | <p><b>Insurance</b></p> <p>Current insurer no longer affiliated with NSALG. Denise received quote from new NSALG-affiliated insurer. Public liability only £50 p/a. for 10 members. Policy can be amended as new members join and new buildings/equipment on site.</p> <p>Steve reminded us that lottery funding requires us to insure capital assets for a period of 5 years after purchase. Steve to email Denise list of capital assets and timescale. Also, purchases need to be insured in case of theft if stored at member's houses after purchase and before installation on site.</p>   | Steve                                     |

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|    | Denise to enquire.   | Denise                                      |
| 7. | <p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>Suzanne queried wording of tenancy agreement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Weedkillers/chemicals not allowed” All agreed that this could be ambiguous as many “chemicals” allowed by Soil Association, therefore “organic”. Decided to leave paragraph as it is but state green aims in letter to tenants. If queried we can review.</li> <li>• “No dogs”. Agreed to amend to “dogs must be kept on a lead”.</li> <li>• Need to check provenance of compost/manure as may contain herbicides. Note to be added to tenancy agreement to say compost/manure not to be brought on site as it was felt that with compost bins provided we should be able to be self sufficient and in any case topsoil is new.</li> </ul> | <p>Denise</p> <p>Suzanne</p> <p>Suzanne</p> |
| 8. | <p><b>Next Meeting</b></p> <p>Committee meeting.</p> <p>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2012, Moon Court, Pocklington</p>   |   |