

Reports

Capel St Mary Allotments Association General Committee Meeting

Date Monday 15th March 2021

The meeting will take the form of a discussion document, following the agenda.

Agenda

1. Minutes of General Committee Meeting document 18th January. MD Happy with these.

2. Treasurer – GC

Grand Total cash is £13089.91. Current total available cash is £9369.41. Rotovator fund balance is £815.97. Site maintenance is £1227.33 debit against budget of £1268 debit (this is the final figure for this PC financial year which ends on March 31st).

Members figures are 331 paying at the start, 13 new members, 19 resignations, so current figure is 325 paid with 3 honorary.

Hut sales are £3721 to date.

3. Chairman – CH

The larger poly tunnel has been sorted and thanks to Dennis 8 new poly tunnel plots have been created.

The Allotments Association has been asked if they would like to enter a scarecrow in the village event on 8th to 11th July. As you know we have participated previously and have a scarecrow on site somewhere hiding but unfortunately headless. I think we can smarten him up and I have reconstructed a refurbished head for him. We need to agree a name for him, so suggestions please.

It has been agreed that the Show will go ahead on 4th and 5th September 2021 and updates to the Show schedule and flyers are in hand. Upstix have agreed to sponsor the cost of printing the draw tickets

Philippa has reported the changes to dates for the AGM and work-in and for the meeting with the Parish Council.

4. Reports from

a. Site Manager – DS

THE SITE.

- We presently have a waiting list of eleven people for allotment plots.

- All allotment plots are rented out.
THE NEW MEETING ROOM
- Paving slabs are still to be laid down at the front of the building when the weather improves. This is the only thing left to do, that is except using the place! I would like to give a big thankyou to everyone that has helped me so far with the construction and installation.

POLY TUNNEL

- Because of the high demand for poly tunnel plots we have constructed eight additional plots in the large poly tunnel. All additional plots have now been rented out. Does the PC pay for the cost of alterations that have been made especially as they will be receiving the yearly rental money or do we generously pay for it out of our own funds? We now have 10 additional poly tunnel plots on site.

b.Stores Manager – GW

Sales so far have been terrific. Just over £4k Thanks to Phil. Jenny. David and Angie for covering the first 6 weeks. Martyn & Bev are covering the next 2 weeks which takes us up to the end of March.

April. May & June we are open sat & sun . Sats we will need 2 people . Sundays can run on one. Volunteers please.

Its also been a great help Dennis sorting the tables and Pip and Geoff bagging up during the week.

Home deliveries, plot deliveries and pre orders have continued through out from pre Christmas at about 9 a week.

ARIEL VIEW OF THE ALLOTMENT SITE

Chris and Steve Hart have done an amazing job with this 2020 project. They have both put in many hours in filming and editing . We now have a 20 minute film of the allotment over a whole year. I will pass this to Martyn to up load.

Martyn if you can now remove all the monthly clips from you tube please.

If all agree I think we should give Chris & Steve . a thankyou drink for their time and expertise.

AGM

Sue and me are happy to help with providing lunch.

Question. If you attend a wedding / wake with 30 guests allowed surely the staff are extra

c. IT- MD

Nothing major to report, work has commenced in the background on updating the website in readiness for the 2021 show, all changes are hidden at the moment and will be published when the show schedule is ready for distribution. Minor changes are being made to the OASIS product to handle this years show entries, once complete a copy will be sent to Wendy.

Not for any action now, but we may have to think about the association printer at some stage, printing sticky labels is now not very successful, they mostly fail to print correctly. However, the workaround is to print on standard A4 paper then photocopy it onto the labels paper using my own printer. It works but is not elegant.

d. Scheme – PH

Aside from tidying up a few remaining seed orders (these are mainly fruit and asparagus which are supplied in March/April and also certain pea and bean varieties which were previously out of stock) the 2020 ordering process is virtually complete.

In the main the system for ordering seeds and potatoes has worked well with record numbers of orders being processed for both although Covid19 has inevitably meant the time between seed order and receipt has often been delayed. Going forward, Kings have completely revamped their web site although, hopefully, it will remain fairly straightforward for members to use.

e. Show - WR

f. Secretary – PB,

Thanks to everyone for sending me your reports for the AGM notice. The proposal to change the date of the AGM and work-in to 23rd May was unanimous and will be included in the report. The PC have no problem with changing the date of the ManCom meeting to 26th May and Steve Baker is available for the AGM. We will have to insist that ploholders who wish to attend confirm by email to me that they will be attending and there will be a cut-off at thirty to conform with COVID regulations. If you are a committee member and won't be able to attend, please could you let me know. If the weather is predicted to be wet, we can either change the meeting to be virtual or erect gazebos outside. We also need to decide about any refreshments bearing in mind that pubs etc will be able to serve food outside by then. Comments please!

If everyone agrees, I think we ought to email ploholders with the changed date

and the arrangements. I'm happy to draft this.

Any ideas about the Picnic on the Plot? We must reschedule 24th May meeting – how about 21st or 14th June as there are no meetings on June? Wendy, shall I get in touch with the judges to rebook them?

5. AOB Angie

Flower & Produce Show 2021

I believe it may be difficult to secure items / donations for the Grand Draw this year as many companies will be reducing their marketing spend, or restricting it to their own locality, due to the pandemic. Hopefully I may be proved wrong on this theory but some companies are going to be struggling at present.

Therefore, I feel we need to look at a way to generate additional funds to use to purchase prizes for the draw so as to keep up the high standards of prizes we have had over the years.

Could we have a draw at the Hut when it is open on a Saturday / Sunday? If we had a sheet with 20 squares on and sold these at £1 each we could offer a prize of say, a bag of compost or a £5 voucher to spend in the Hut once the sheet was full. This would give us £15 to put into a fund for prizes. I would be happy to oversee this and contact the winners. It may be that some weeks we could sell more than 1 sheet of 20 or it might carry over to another week depending on how busy the Hut was.

If everyone is in agreement with this I will make some sheets and a notice we can use at the Hut explaining what the draw is for and get this underway asap.

Angie

Apologies for the different fonts etc and length of this doc but there a lot of points for discussion. Could you send me some replies by Monday or put some in the WhatsApp group? I will then collate them and circulate. Thanks,Pip

Circulation: General Committee