

CAPEL ST MARY ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Affiliated to R.H.S & NAS President Steve Baker www.capelallotments.co.uk

Capel St Mary Allotments Association Annual General Meeting - Sunday 21 April 2024

34 people attended the meeting

Charles acknowledged the support the Allotments Association has as tenants from our landlord the Parish Council and welcomed Jim Ross who is Parish Councilor and also an allotment plotholder. He also thanked the PC for the new boundary fence provided during 2023.

Charles has been Chairman now since 1986. 38 years, as he said "far too long"! He was also Show Secretary from 1992 to 2015.

Charles joined the committee in July 1983 and has been involved in the organisation of the allotments for 41 years and has had a plot for 47 years since the allotment site was first established by the Parish Council in 1977.

Many changes have occurred during those years and Charles has written the "History of Capel St Mary Allotments" so nothing is lost or forgotten. This can be found on the Capel St Mary Allotments website. It includes a full history of all the names of the members who have stood on the committee since 1977. A copy has also been lodged with the Ipswich records office.

Charles has decided to retire sometime this year as Chairman. He says it's something he has enjoyed, working with a fabulous committee and will miss it but feels it is time to hand over to a younger person. Volunteers please!

The format of this AGM follows that of previous years. You should all have copies of the Notice of AGM and audited accounts. Please raise any questions you may have under item 5 on the agenda or under general discussion item 8

I now have the honour to ask our President, Steve Baker to chair the AGM for us this afternoon:

1. President's Address

The President welcomed everyone to the AGM and thanked Charles for his long service as Chairman as well as all involved in the management of the site, which as always looks fantastic and did particularly so when Felixstowe Allotment Association visited last summer. 2023 was another successful growing year despite the weather challenges. The Village Show was well supported, although we could always do with more exhibits and exhibitors. We did have 3 record breakers in the Mammoth competitions which is testament to the growers. The site is more than just a place for growing vegetables, it's a place to spend time chatting to your fellow plotholders, enjoying the nature area and relaxing away from everyday life. Steve echoed Charles comments in that we need to get more people involved at the site and today's turn out at the Work In shows this is happening.

2. Minutes of 2022 AGM

The minutes were displayed on the Hut notice board and circulated by email. It was proposed to adopt them as an accurate record of the meeting.

Proposer Philippa Brandon Seconder Tara Smith

Passed unanimously

3. Matters Arising

The Committee was asked if it had changed its policy on rat poison. Due to continued problems with rats traps have now been placed around the site.

4. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts for 2015

Geoff Cox, Treasurer, had produced the report of the accounts and thanked Malcolm Fenn for completing the audit advising the figures in the report were exactly as the audited accounts. GC offered to explain any points from the sheet.

Proposer Martin Leech Seconder Dennis Smith

Passed unanimously

5. Questions to Executive Officers and Committee Members on their reports. Please see reports in AGM notice, also general discussion under item 8

- Could we reinstate the bonfire it was suggested that rather than having a regular bonfire we might be able to have one at the Work In's providing the wind was in the right direction. We also now have 3 incinerators on site which can be used and they will be kept in the woodstore.
- Could we have an up to date plot members list ML to place one in the hut and polytunnel.
- The black bin is full, could we have an additional one this would incur additional costs and its seldom full so not to be actioned at present.
- ML thanked all who had attended the Work In and for all the work that had been completed.

6. Proposals (if any)

There were no proposals.

7. Election of Officers, Committee and Auditor

Steve Baker, President, introduced this item. All current members have agreed to serve the Capel St Mary Allotments Association in the capacities as shown:

Chairman Charles Heath General Secretary Tara Smith Treasurer Geoff Cox **Dennis Smith** Stores Manager Site Manager Martin Leech Seed Scheme Mgr Phil Hickley Geoff Cox Membership Sec Show Secretary Wendy Russell

All the above to be Ex-Officio members of the General Committee, which shall also include David Armitage, Angie Armitage, Martyn Dowsett, Rob Birnie and Mark Ruse

SB read out the names and positions of committee members and asked them to identify themselves.

It was proposed to vote them in en bloc

Proposer Gail Nye Seconder Sue Whybrow

The vote was carried unanimously

Malcolm Fenn was proposed as Auditor

Proposer Karan Rodrigues Seconder Lorraine Connolly

The vote was carried unanimously

8. General Discussion

- Sue Whybrow thanked all who had supported Angie Armitage and herself on their endeavours to raise
 money for the Air Ambulance. They've completed one walk and a second, which was postponed from
 last summer, will take place in June. To date they have raised over £2,300. This is on top of the
 £5,000 raised following Graham passing away which was used to purchase 2 defibrillators, one of
 which was used twice recently.
- Future Events
 - o Picnic on the Plot Saturday 27th July
 - o Village Show 7th & 8th September
 - o Autumn Work In Sunday 22th October

9. Any Other Business

• A thank you was also extended to Eddie Cox for organising the raffle, David Armitage for arranging the drinks and Angie Armitage and the team for the lunch.

The meeting closed at 12.40 pm