

**Capel St Mary Allotments Association**  
**Minutes of General Committee Meeting**  
**Monday 20 January 2025**

Present: CH, DA, AA, TS, GC, WR, MD, RB, MR, PH

Apologies: ML, DS

**ACTION**

**1. Matters Arising from General Committee Meeting – 25 November 2024**

- TS/AA still to talk with SW regarding sorting items in shed so we can use for storage. **TS/AA**
- CH still waiting for a reply from the PC to the grant application for £395. **CH**
- CH/WR still to look into purchasing refreshment tables for the Show. **CH/WR**

**2. Chairman's Report**

- CH thanked for suggesting the new meeting format of all providing reports prior to the meeting to be read by all and then key points only discussed.
- CH report included:
  - CH asked all Committee Members if they were happy to stand again at AGM. **ALL**
  - CH has been contacted by SB regarding Chairmanship and SB's proposal of a "job swap" ie SB to become Chairman and CH, President was put to the meeting and approved.
  - Seed Scheme – should we move from NAS to Kings own scheme. Felt no additional benefit in changing so would continue as at present.
  - Cover for DS – to be discussed later in meeting.

**3. Treasurer and Membership Secretary**

- Grand total cash £14,804.25      Total available cash £10,399.75
- Rotovator fund £1,215.97      Site Maintenance -£1,314.95 (Budget£2,517)
- Mower Fund £5,972.00      Site Capital fund £853.10
- Membership
  - Membership Year started (Sept 2024) with 373 paying and 3 honorary members. There are 6 new members to date and 41 resignations therefore current numbers are 338 paying members and 3 honorary.
- Hut sales 2025
  - Sales to date £143      Hut Purchases £238
- **Comments from Committee on report:**
  - Are there any plans to utilise any of our funds?
  - TS has a rotovator that could be overhauled and used rather than purchase new.
  - CH thanked GC for producing accounts.

**4. Reports**

- **Site Manager**
  - Site is full with 10 plots and 3 poly plots having changed hands.
  - Site in good condition but there are some tears in large polytunnel cover which we may need to cost out possible replacement in due course.
  - New machinery shed – PC feels this needs further discussion as no funds currently allocated. An alternative would be a container which would be considerably cheaper.
  - Car park repairs – PC have approved and contractor to be contacted to schedule work. **ML**
  - Site Maintenance – PC agreed a budget of £2588 for 2025.
  - Signage – various signage to be purchased at cost of £301.
  - Mushroom compost – Capel Mushrooms are closing so there will be no further supplies available. Plotolders have been informed.

- **Comments from Committee on report:**
  - Car park – how much needs to be repaired and how long will it be out of action? **ML**
  - Polytunnel cover – ML to raise at next ManCom as to whether we should have a PC fund. **ML**
  - Compost – could we compile a list off sources of horse manure etc for plotholders. **ALL**
- **IT**
  - MD has updated system for sending out invoices.
  - Hut price list updated and printed in various formats.
  - Polytunnel – MD and RB actioned the fumigation on both tunnels which have now been re-opened to plotholders.
  - **Comments from Committee on report:**
    - CH asked MD about updates to Oasis.
- **Stores Manager / Hut**
  - No report from DS due to his accident.
- **Seed Scheme / Capel Capers**
  - Orders currently total £3,109.25 (2024 - £3,268.59).
  - Kings new website has caused a few problems, most of which have been resolved.
  - Seed potatoes were delivered and all now distributed.
  - Capel Capers – February submission actioned.
  - **Comments from Committee on report:**
    - WR asked PH if he could include Village Sow in each month's articles.
    - Could MD include in monthly newsletter other site info as well as what goes into CC.
- **General Secretary**
  - TS reminded all to action their AGM reports and submit asap. **ALL**
  - TS asked MR to action report on Wildlife Area. **MR**
- **Village Show**
  - WR / CH and AT to hold meeting on 23 January.
  - PH asked if we can ensure we are precise re items/ quantities for handicrafts etc. **WR**

## 5. Any Other Business

- RB reported plants will be grown again this year and will notify all when plug plants arrive.
- Precinct flowers – need to discuss with PC the safety implications on placing them on roof and will need a team to action.
- AA reported Hut Rota almost complete and will be issued to all asap.
- MR has spoken with ML re Wildlife Area and jobs which could be actioned at Work In.
- Drainage in wood – need to raise at ManCom as to who owns land and who is responsible. **CH/TS**
- Dennis Smith - Following on from DS's accident the following was agreed:
  - DA/MD happy to collect /sort any deliveries made to DS home.
  - DS to be advised of any shortages of stock once the hut re-opens so orders can be placed.
  - PH has bagged onion sets are they are ready for sale.
  - Price lists are in Hut and MD auctioning price stickers.
- Potential new storage area ie shed/container – to be discussed at next meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Date of next meeting: 3 March 202

Circulation: General Committee members, SB & notice board.

Signed.....