

# **EYNHAM ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on Thursday  
11<sup>th</sup> November 2021 in the Function Room of the  
White Hart Public House at 19.30

1) **Apologies for absence**

AH, JS, SD, PA, AS, DA

2) **Approval of minutes of the AGM held by email in October 2020 (attached)**

The Minutes of last AGM were presented and accepted by all.

3) **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

4) **Chair's Report (attached) to be approved**

The Chair's annual report previously circulated, was presented, approved and accepted by all. The Chair drew the attention of the meeting to a number of additional matters:

- 21 plots have been re-let over the last year. 6 people either withdrew their application or declined the offer of a plot. There are currently 25 persons on the waiting list. The Chair thanked MK and PT for managing the waiting lists.
- There have been one or two instances of non-plot-holders walking loose dogs through the allotments.
- Maintenance of fencing between plots is the responsibility of plot-holders.
- The Chair reported concern that has been expressed in respect of the constitutional arrangements for election to the Committee. Proposals to address this concern will be brought to the next AGM following further conversations with the Parish Council.
- The Chair expressed his thanks to the committee members for their dedicated work during the COVID period over the last eighteen months.
- The Chair expressed his thanks to Andy Swarbrick for keeping the live database alive and current.

5) **Treasurers Report (attached) to be approved**

The audited accounts for the year 2020-21 previously circulated, were presented and approved. The Treasurer noted:

- The association now holds a balance of £4,078.81 but that includes income from an insurance claim some of which has been allotted to the repairs of the track on Field 2.
- If income of £2,022.50 from the insurance claim is excluded, the accounts show our income fell short of expenditure by £424.00 over the year and that it will be necessary to continue with gradual rent increases to cover our running costs. However the Treasurer reported that we (EAA) has one of the lowest rents in the country, noting Bury (Lancs) charge £178pa for a full plot and more locally Swindon (Wilts) £78 per full plot.

#### 6) **Election of Committee**

In accordance with the tradition of the Association the officers and Committee resigned and the Secretary reported that the following nominations had been received to serve the Association 2021-2022:

Chair	Martin Groves
Vice-Chair	Peter Taylor
Treasurer	Michael Green
Secretary	Peter Feakes

No office was contested and the above were duly elected.

The Secretary reported that the following nominations had been received to serve as ordinary members of the Committee 2021-2022

Deb Arrowsmith  
 Christine Cox  
 Helen Jordan  
 Margaret Key  
 Michael McCluskey  
 Sue Osborne (Parish Council Representative)  
 Bridget Pitcher  
 Chris Potts  
 Rachel Yuen

No objection was raised to any of the nominations and the above were duly elected.

The Chair welcomed Rachel Yuen to the Committee. Rachel will support the Association by working on the maintenance and management and use of its data. The Chair thanked Peter Ayres for his years of long service on the Committee including holding the office of Chair. Peter's knowledge of all things to do with allotments and history of EAA is legendary. The meeting thanked him and wished him well for a speedy recovery from his recent illness. The Chair also repeated his thanks to Christine Jackson for her assistance with the Treasurers roll handover and her service over the last seven years.

**7) Other Business previously notified**

The meeting had been previously notified of a concern about the pruning of cherry trees on Field 2 and it was agreed that Heather Horner and Chris Potts would work together at the right time of year to resolve the issue.

**8) Presentation of Awards**

Christine Cox organized and gave report on the Best Kept Plot competition which had been suspended due to COVID restrictions in 2020 but was resumed this year. The competition was again judged by Jonathan and Lucy from The Market Garden who noted a general improvement in the condition of the allotments particularly on Field 1. Jonathan and Lucy were thanked for their work.

The results of the competition were as follows:

<b>1<sup>st</sup> prize</b> - Field 2	plot 44	Marilyn and Neil Panting	50/50
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> prize</b> - Field 1	plot 17A/B	Charlotte Holmes and Paul Turner	49/50
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> prize</b> - Field 2	plot 23/23A	Bridget Pitcher	48/50
<b>Highly Commended</b>			
Field 2	31A	Paul Ellis	46/50
Field 1	19A	Fay Taylor-Ball	43/50
Field 1	14A	Jacky and Adrian Pinnock	43/50
Field 1	13	Tony Pendry	40/50
Field 1	40	Fiona Lewington and Paul Jeffrey	40/50

Christine Cox also reported on the work of the newly formed Review Group the purpose of which is to support the Field Managers in their work and support members in maintaining a high standard of cultivation on their plots.

**9) Any Other Business**

The Association recorded its thanks to Tracey and Ian Green for their hospitality, not just this evening but, during the course of the year.

**10) Date of next Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Meeting closed at 20.10