

MARLOW ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION
Meeting on Wednesday 28 March 2018

1. **Apologies for absence.** Scott Pickard.
2. **Minutes and matters arising from last meeting** held on Wednesday 17 January 2018 were reviewed and agreed.
3. **The Treasurer reported** that there are currently 95 members. Tenants have not been on site because of the cold weather and this has affected the sale of chicken pellets and receipt of donations for rabbit manure. PC was still exploring options for sponsorship towards the insurance payment. MT said that a clear position would be needed by mid-May before the current arrangement came up for renewal in June. **Action:** (i) PC to report on insurance by mid-May. (ii) PE to recirculate approach to become a member of the South West Allotment Society which included insurance.
4. **Waiting lists and vacant plots.** PE reported in relation to Foxes Piece no vacancies and 1 on the waiting list; in relation to Hanging Hill there are 6 vacancies (with 2 additional plots in development) and 2 on the waiting list.
5. **Neglected plots.** PE said that the Council had agreed a more rigorous system for dealing with neglected plots and for tracking necessary action. The first review of both sites would be undertaken by the Council in April. **Action:** PE to include an item in the newsletter about the Council's review of all plots in April and inviting tenants to flag up to the Council any areas of concern.
6. **Review of events.** SM said that at this stage she was able to confirm that barbecues were planned for the last weekend in April, summer, autumn and in August for the Triangle. Further work was needed to confirm social evenings and dates for talks (eg by PC on kiwi fruit and flowers). **Action:** SM.
7. **Website update.** Readability of fonts on the website continue to be a concern and it would be helpful if these could be black on white. **Action:** SP.
8. **Additional plots at HH on Berwick Road boundary.** PE reported that the Council had given permission for land rented out for many years to be marked out as additional plots.
9. **Thames Water repairs.** PE confirmed that Thames Water had repaired the track down to Berwick Road, though the side track still needed some work. The Committee discussed the concerns of tenants about pot holes and the poor state of the main track at HH which tenants therefore needed to raise with the Council. **Action:** PE to include contact details in the newsletter.
10. **Ex Play Area Foxes Piece.** No news has been received on this matter.
11. **Payback work at Foxes Piece.** DB had recommended areas for strimming and clearance which the Council would decide on.
12. **Data Protection Legislation.** The Committee discussed the importance of complying with the legislation and protecting the information of all tenants. **Action:** PE to flag up in newsletter. MT to circulate material from the RHS on helping plant associations to comply.
13. **Marlow Allotment sites history.** Information continues to be gathered. **Action:** FT to liaise with PE on useful material and website links.

AOB

- a) **Allotment Working Group.** **Action:** PE to follow up on Council's undertaking to provide details of the 2018 budget.
- b) **Water.** Water will be turned on in next week or so subject to the weather.

c) Future meetings. 6 June – Hanging Hill. 15 August – Foxes Piece.