

Kingston Vale Leisure Gardens Association

Minutes of the AGM held on March 22nd 2019

Present 40 members (list attached)

Apologies Barry Wood, Mr & Mrs Nunes

Welcome Jim welcomed the membership to the meeting

Matters arising from the AGM March 23rd 2018

The minutes were agreed.

Any matters arising was discussed under the chairman and Treasurers reports.

Chairman's report

Breach of lease. This has now been rectified, a new fence at a cost of £2,200 has been erected between our land and our neighbour Robin Hood Farm

Our lease is due to be renewed. Jim and Wendy to meet with a representative from Kfag for Advice before sending to RBK. This is a 12 year cycle.

Water. On going issues we suspect leak in pipework. Discussion with Thames Water, RBK and neighbour to gain access to land for investigation, Jim went into details about the investigations needed and subsequent repairs if required. A new stopcock would be installed on our land.

Water will be turned on 23rd March for any members to fill water butts or similar.

The Brook. The Brook at the side of us and the golf course has had a lot of vandalism, the wire fence had been cut and equipment and rubbish including glass has been dumped into it. The police were informed and environmental services from RBK has been down to inspect. They have decided to clear all the brook of greenery. Members of the committee cleared the majority of debris from the brook.

The golf club has agreed to mend the fence.

A skip at a cost of £336 was ordered to clear the site of all the rubbish.

The Beverley Brook will be cleared out by RBK bi monthly.

Allotment Regeneration to upgrade all sites now include site checks for health and safety. 3,000 plots have been disposed of for not being fully functional.

Working parties. In contracts we ask that members contribute at least 2 hrs per year to help make repairs. A Rota will be drawn up with repairs and dates for members to put their name down.

Lettings are not restricted to residents of RBK, but are given first refusal before others from outside Boroughs.

Some plots are in poor condition but this is due to the winter season and recent bad weather. Members should now be getting their plots in order.

The main paths need realigning, plus the damage caused by the use of weed killer.

John N pointed out the hard work and stress that the committee has endured in dealing with the vandalism and how damaging this all is to the Association. Thank you to the members for the clearing of the brook and the filling of the skip which was hard work.

Vice chair thank you to the chairman for his continuous devotion to the allotments and to the Secretary for keeping People informed.

The locking of gates. The committee made a decision to remove the padlock as it was used to lock people in the allotment and sometimes the padlock was not there.

Treasurers report

Mick Z, informed the meeting of his decision as to why he resigned as Treasurer. He said along with tough decisions that was made with the committee, resulting in some foul language and abusive behaviour from a plot member. As well as fruit trees being cut down, (a legacy from an old member Basil), his greenhouse now with all smashed or no glass, and the plot generally being cleared. This all added to him resigning.

Accounts please see attached.

With the main expenses of fence and the large water bills we have no money. We do have to increase the water rates.

It was proposed, voted on and agreed to make increase to £10 per half plot and £20 per full plot.

A reminder was given about handheld hosepipes only and for children not to have access to have water fights or similar.

John N asked about leak, Jim explained tests that will have to be done and costs that could be involved.

In our lease we are responsible for day to day repairs. RBK will not pay unless all is renewed.

Hopefully we will have stopcock on site eventually, which would be locked to stop any unnecessary use.

Mick also said a big thank you to Martin Hirst, previous Treasurer of 21 years.

Secretary did not give a report as items had been mentioned by Chairman and Treasurer.

Wendy did ask that members give email addresses as it is easier to send information and obviously cheaper than postal costs.

Social Secretary Sarah confirmed that she would like to have an Open Day, Bbq, an International Food day down the Allotment.

Ideas for fundraising like the New Malden Fortnight.

Julie Z, said the church summer fete was on 8th June. Julie also volunteered to help.

Ghulum said about having our own plant/vegetable sale.

Website Johnny B gave information on KVLGA's website and encouraged people to visit. He is at present upgrading the members forum. Any information or Photos can be given to him to upload. Ghulum also mentioned about greater communication through email and website.

A question was asked can we use water from the brook. No we don't have a licence,

Bio diversity report

Colin reinforced about the new health and safety requirements.

He also asked if members had looked at the information on the community hut on various wild life.

Elections Voting slips were given out.

Bill Trimble Treasurer elected.

Ibrihim and Dorothy both stood for Vice Chair - equal votes

Agreed show of hands. Dorothy was elected.

One other candidate was nominated for committee member, this person decided not to stand.

The current members stood down and was re-elected by Show of hand.

Chairperson, James Hunt

Secretary, Wendy Langhorne

Bio diversity, Colin Hunt

Social Secretary, Sarah Bouchier

AOB

Thank you to Ghulum for being the adjudicator for the voting process.

Jackie N asked when we will know about the lease.

We receive the paperwork in approximately June, we will have a meeting with someone from the Federation.

We do have a protected lease with a covenant on it. If there was a problem of renewal we would of been given notice all ready.

Ghulum asked about the lettings process and plot discipline. He asked to ensure that procedures are transparent and put on notice board to avoid any confusion. This was agreed and Jim reminded the meeting that this procedure is in the handbook.

All lettings and plot discipline is discussed with the whole committee, only contracts are signed by Chairman and Secretary.

Wendy also added that in some circumstances these procedures may not be followed due to personal circumstances of individuals. She also asked that if members have an issue please speak to a member of the committee.

A thank you was given to Ibrihim for his work on the committee.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.