**TINTWISTLE ALLOTMENT GARDENERS’ ASSOCIATION**

**COMMITTEE MEETING**

**2 MARCH 2022**

**Present:** Lisa Clough, Steve Barnes, Alan Lord, Paula Lord, Janet Potts, Arthur Stanway, Jessica McFarlane (Secretary), Marianne Stevenson (Chair)

**Apologies:**

1. **Welcome**

Marianne welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first for some time because of Covid restrictions.

1. **Minutes and Matters Arising from 2019**

2.1 A skip was arranged and filled and paid for. Thanks were given to those who helped as it has really helped relieve the site of excess rubbish.

2.2 The paving repair voluntary group removed broken paving stones. Work will recommence in March. The area in front of the compost contained will be prioritised.

**Action: Arrange collection of materials from Markovitz (Marianne)**

2.3 The BBQ didn’t happen and it was decided that it will happen in 2022 instead.

**3. Treasurer’s Report**

Prices are going up across the board and electricity has increased in particular. Even when the cabin isn’t heated, we do require the pipes heating in the meantime to prevent pipes freezing. A T-junction piece has been put on the pipe network so that there is no need for the heater to be on whilst the cabin is not in use. This will have a positive impact on electric bills over the near future. Thanks to PJ and AL for completing this work and overcoming an issue that could have caused us great expense.

In terms of cabin sales and revenue, the most recent weekend was really good, whereas the two previous were less so. There was £120 profit on Bacon Butty Sunday! It was noted that this is a really popular event, and the good weather helped a lot, with many enjoying the outside space. £918.05 is the current balance, but with the additional safe balance it is £1198.05 in total. AL keeps a small cash balance in a safe to ensure he can make cash payments as required.

MS thanked AL for his continued as Treasurer and noted that it is so great to have someone so dedicated to ensuring we have such accurate records and oversight of the finances.

1. **Membership Secretary’s Report**

SJ was unable to attend but is providing MS with a spreadsheet of full members so that the NAS annual fee can be paid.

A Membership fee increase was discussed. There was debate as to whether it was necessary to increase them again.

**Action: Advise if another membership increase is needed once he has looked at the further cost increases (Alan Lord)**

There was discussion about encouraging new tenant (and existing!) to take up the membership so that they are insured on the site.

**Action: More signage and correspondence may be required and further thought to be given to this (Marianne)**

There are 2 raised beds currently vacant.

**Action: Advertise on the T.A.G.A. website and FB with first consideration to those who are disabled and living in Tintwistle (Allan and Marianne)**

1. **Grants**

Grants are now more available post Covid and everyone should keep an eye out for any funding streams that could be of benefit to the Association.

**ACTION: Identify and draft grant applications to include fencing, roof repairs, paving cost (Marianne and Jessica)**

1. **TPC Allotment List**

The Clerk to the Parish Council has given her resignation due to personal reasons. Allotment administration is delayed. Discussion took place as to the outcomes of the most recent allotment inspection. Some notices of termination were issued. Further plots have been allocated to those on the waiting list. However, the Committee felt that too many plots were not being fully or properly used.

**Action: Send a letter to TPC to ask for a strengthening of the enforcing of the rules (Jessica)**

**ACTION: Obtain and circulate/post most recent allotment list (Marianne)**

1. **Website Editor’s Report (JMC for AD)**

**Action: Update site with the new summer opening hours – Saturday commencing 16 April until 31 October 2022 (Allan)**

1. **Sales and Events**

8.1 The cabin will operate on weekend opening hours from 16/4/22. This will also incorporate plant sales.

8.2 Summer BBQ and Soup ‘n’ Social will take place if there is enough interest.

**Action: Confirm dates (Paula and Marianne)**

Tintwistle Primary School has asked Margaret and Marianne to arrange a session for children at the cabin in the summer term.

**Action: Arrange a date and details with Jo Griffin and Sara Bott (Margaret and Marianne)**

**Action: Start getting plants in readiness for 16/4/22 (Steve)**

The show committee also have a date to meet and are eager to drum up new volunteers due to several members being unavailable this year.

MS to ask PJ if he is available for the show committee.

1. **Village Show**

The committee is meeting on 7/3/22. Paula and alan Lord will attend meetings although they are aware at the time of the Show.

Sadly, JP is stepping down from the show committee this year. MS thanked JP for all her efficiency and efforts in previous years.

**ACTION: Let SB or MS know of anyone who wants to assist on the day or in preparation (ALL)**

1. **Business Plan**

The rise in electricity fees needs to be factored into the new plan. The lifetime membership for David Marshall to be continued.

Perimeter fencing is still required, repair of the cabin roof, repair of the storage container and eco toilet roof is also in need of repair.. Discussion took place around the eco toilet and PL advised how much mess there is MS and will work JMC to address these issues when applying for grants in cleaning it up once it has been used. Perimeter fencing was also discussed, and members noted that responsibility should rest with the plot holder. It was accepted that some of the newly divided plots have had fencing erected *for* plot holders, but that ongoing boundary support and renewal should be down to the plot holder themselves to maintain.

**Action: Research possibilities that a grant is used to install a new toilet for the site (Jessica and Marianne)**

1. **AGM**

AGMs are now held in May instead of April because Andy Bolam cannot have the accounts audited by the end of March.

**Action: Arrange paperwork in readiness and set the meeting date (Jessica and Marianne)**

1. **Date of Next Meeting**

**Action: Set date and inform Committee (Jessica)**