

Alers Road Leisure Gardens Association Committee Meeting Minutes - 31st March 2024

Present	Apologies for Absence
Adrian Hawthorne – Chairman	Eddy Haydon
Debra Collins – Secretary	Linda Hartard
John Hollands - Treasurer	
Ray Mitchell	
John Young	Absent
Richard Collins	Ray Mudie
Roy Seymour	
Mary Harrison	

Min	Item	Action
1.0	WELCOME	
	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies given.	
2.0	OPEN ACCESS	
	None	
3.0	Previous Meeting	
	The minutes were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
4.0	MATTERS ARISING	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None raised 	
5.0	CHAIR’S REPORT	
	Adrian has looked around the site, plots are looking good on average. A few plot holders just making a token effort at the moment.	
6.0	TREASURER’S REPORT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See sheets shared by John Holland for full information. • Made donation to Barry Elphick’s family for their chosen charity. Barry was a plot holder for many years. He moved away and suddenly died whilst attending his new Allotment plot. • We still have a voucher from Ruxley in Bloom, will use it to buy compost for tubs around the site. • Insurance – have now increased as we have added Employers Liability Insurance which was an extra £50. This now covers us for any volunteers or contractors working on site. We have Public Liability insurance , but this would not cover anyone working on our behalf. Therefore important to have the Employers Liability. 	

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7.0	BUSINESS PLAN	
	The business plan has been on the website for all members to see. It will be shared at the upcoming AGM.	
8.0	PLOTS REPORT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have been collecting as many emails as possible as easiest and quickest way of disseminating information. We now only have 19 members without email information, not too bad out of 131. • We currently have 15 on the waiting list. 10 new people and 5 current plot holders waiting for specific plots. Currently the wait is approximately 4 – 5 months. • A cultivation survey will be completed on Eddy’s return. • Will be entering the Ruxley in Bloom again this year, information just out. 	
9.0	SITE REPORT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a serious accident with the new build of houses. The breeze block was built up, there was a wind blowing and it knocked them all down. The scaffolding was unsafe, with some bits falling on the allotment site. The builders have now erected scaffolding on our site which impacts on a couple of plot holders. John H has spoken to the council, they are not concerned. The incident was reported in the Newshopper, John shared the article with the committee. • The camera’s are using batteries really quickly. John has changed the type we have been using to Lithium ones. On one evening the cameras recorded a van entering the site at 8pm and staying till 10pm. These are probably plot holders as they had a key. John checked the site nothing amiss and we have not had reports of damage or theft, so likely a plot holder. • The shops deliveries now come on pallets. They drop the pallets off and leave. The track gets blocked, so getting slabs down so can pull along to clear the area, This will be done at the horticultural’s expenses. Have found some slabs around that may be able to be used. Pallets can be used once delivery has been cleared if anyone wants them. 	
10.0	MACHINARY REPORT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 strimmer broke and is in being repaired at the moment. • All machine serviced by Gerry and John • The battery is back on the sit on mower 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adrian commented that the machines are not always being returned clean. John said that everyone is reminded when they borrow the machines. 	
11.0	PROPOSED ALLOTMENT AGREEMENT	
	No new updates	
11.0	FEDERATION REPORT	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a meeting on the 8th April. The Chairman is standing down. John has been requested to chair the meeting as the president. The Federation needs a new chair and secretary, the treasurer is happy to continue. This is a do or die meeting, if no one steps up it can't continue. Debra and Eddy will be attending the meeting. 	
12.0	SOCIAL MEDIA	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stats produced at the 1st of the month. John Y shared a print out, see sheet for details No new movement with setting up social media. The college said they would be happy to give training. John has gone back to them and said that we would like to take up the training, just waiting to hear 	
13.0	WEBSITE	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New content such as the newsletter triggered people to look. Need more content and to keep the website current. 	
14.0	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM on Friday 5th April – All committee members happy to continue. John will do finance sheets and print them out. He will also sort out the refreshments. 	
	<p>Next Meetings 26th May 2024</p> <p>Suggested Future Meeting Dates: 28th July 2024 29th September 2024 24th November 2024 26th January 2025</p>	