

BILLINGE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of committee meeting that was held on Tuesday 3rd May 2016 @ 7.00pm in the public hall Billinge.

Members please note contained below is the abridged version of the meetings minutes.

Present at the meeting were:

William Reeves, Brian Heaton, Dean Buckley, Duncan Chesworth, Peter Mitchell, Lorna Mitchell, Ken Forber, John Holt.

Apologies were received from Sue Chesworth, Tom Hodgson, Dennis McDonnell.

New committee members welcome.

Members welcomed and Societies principles outlined to all.

Secretary: existing committee all looked forward to working with our new members.

Minutes of last meeting

Secretary read out last meeting's minutes to bring new committee members up to date with our current projects etc.

Election of our Vice Chair

Ken Forber volunteered for position, unanimously accepted.

Selection of new season's garden inspectors

Principles of inspections outlined, book of guidelines passed onto new inspectors.

Committee agreed to put back inspections until all members are in and confirmed.

Committee all agreed that the inspections would start prior to our next meeting.

Secretary will inform all members as to start and why they are needed, new members will have one month before being on the inspection rota. All agreed.

AGM review

All agreed a poor show; Peter and Lorna Mitchell will instigate promoting our site via Social media. All agreed more needs to be done to encourage new members onto our site.

Renewals, membership update

Secretary put on hold till next meeting, due to treasurers absence.

Update on RHS Insurance

Chairman noted insurance now up and running and details on our site notice board.

Plot vacancies/ what's available

Secretary outlined available plots:

Standard: 21, 19, 32 and 30.

Large: 2 and 4

Secretary has deliberately kept back plots 36 and 34 as being not fit for purpose.

All plots advertised to members first for a plot move as per our rules.

If no member comes in for 2 or 4 then they will be split into two, therefore becoming 2a and 2b and 4a and 4b respectively.

If plot 2 and 4 get split then Dean Buckley suggests a side access path, to rear of the aforementioned. Good idea! All agreed.

Waiting List

Secretary read names and addresses of applicants out, no objections therefore list confirmed.

Schools Update

Secretary contacted both schools with an update and volunteered help to get started for this season. Our schools gardener Tommy is still working the plots to keep them tidy. One school replied so far.

Community Plot

All agreed it is untidy and needs a compost structure building and the whole site needs a makeover and a caretaker. Secretary asked Ken Forber to build a suitable structure in exchange for access to half the plot area for private use, and to maintain the rest for the good of all our members. Ken agreed, Society to fund materials for the structure. All members agreed.

Disabled Plots

Secretary suggests grass cutting first. Both plots cause of concern as grass will constantly need cutting. Ongoing. We need an action plan for both plots, ongoing problem.

Lavatory Humour

Peter Mitchell purchased chemicals for our toilet-cost £8.00. Secretary paid Peter from key fund money.

Great Key Debate

Secretary again contacted Tom Kelly, who has pushed and pushed to get us these keys, so far nothing. Secretary thanked Tom for all his efforts.

Allotment Encouragement

Peter and Lorna Mitchell will "put the Society out there".

Correspondence

Secretary outlined all incoming/ outgoing mail from 3rd April to 30th April 2016.

A.O.B.

Member Gordon Rigby chased progress of new standpipes. Secretary asked Brian Heaton to provide a quotation with a view to carrying out this work. Brian will give secretary a quote before our next meeting. Ongoing.

Next Meeting date

Members agreed 7th (Tuesday) June 2016. Secretary to confirm the date.

Chairman and Treasurer will be away on holiday.

William Reeves

Secretary