**North Outfall Allotment Association**

**AGM**

17th October 2022

7.30pm Bilton Cricket Club

21 Attendee’s

1.Apologies – received from 8 members.

2.Minutes of last AGM – accepted as a true record.

1st proposer Michelle DePledge 2nd Proposer Gary Sibson

3.Matters Arising – none to report.

4.Chairmans Report – Thanked everyone for attending and went on to thank everyone who made an effort to help get the site ready for the annual inspection which we went on to win for the 9th time. Thanked Justine and Patsy for all their help with the maintenance of the grass areas, it’s very appreciated. Thanked Ken Lowther for the tidying of the manure and woodchip area. Thanked Madeleine Bell for becoming the new HDAF rep and advised she would be saying a few words. Thanked all those that have contributed produce for the main gate sale and advised it had raised £88.33 so far this year. Advised that Pete Sanderson is still running the seed scheme and asked that all order forms are handed in promptly and asked if anyone needed a catalogue. Advised that the site was to hold a Pumpkin sale on the coming weekend and asked for any contributions of either pumpkins or home baking. Congratulated Dawn Monkman on winning plot of the year and advised that the water would be being turned off the weekend after burn weekend and asked that those that use hosepipes make sure they do contribute as the water bill has rose over £100.00 in the last year. Told those present of the loss of two members in the last few months and sent regards to the friends and families of Audrey Crabtree and David Coates. Advised that some working weekends were to be organised over the winter period to get the few jobs that need doing sorted out, the fence line along the top path, a fence between the manure patch and Ray Gowton’s plot and a ramp to allow for lawn mower access which Pete Sanderson queried which plots it was to be between to which he was advised it was plots 19b/20a and 12a/11b.

5.Treasurers Report – Rental income for the year 21/22 £3365.00 which is £165.00 less than last year.

Water contributions of £100 were received.

Maintenance costs were low at £93.43.

Manure contributions of £287.50 were received.

Insurance was £179.76 which was the same as last year

Client lotto is gaining popularity with donations coming in at £61.00 for the last 8 months.

Wood chip donations are very poor £63.50 with 2 individuals donating £43.50 of that.

We started the financial year with £5238.06 in the bank and finish it with £6139.54 of which £1020 is key deposits held.

HBC have raised the rent for the coming year from £440.00 per quarter to £462.00 which is an increase of £7.33 per calendar month.

6.Membership Secretary Report – The list remains healthy with 25 people on the list but as all plots are let, they are currently facing a 3 to 4 year wait.

7.Web Admin. Report – Scott sent apologies, but there is nothing to report.

8.Presentation of Bill Lodge Trophy – Gary is to pass the trophy on to Dawn Monkman who had sent apologies.

9.HDAF – Madeleine Bell gave a short talk on the charity donation made by HDAF of £600.00 to this year’s chosen charity the Woodlands Community Garden. She appealed for volunteers to help contribute a tray to the 2023 show with the chosen theme of ‘Simply Red’. Madeleine relayed the advice from HDAF that whilst the fruit and veg shown was very good it had been presented late and passed on the request that if chutneys were entered, they are allowed to mature properly. Madeleine then advocated for more volunteers to help with the good work of the HDAF and spoke of the fun that was to be had by doing so.

10.Election of Trustees, Committee Members, and Auditor – rather than go through all nominations individually it was asked if anyone had any objections to the current Committee and Trustee’s staying in place and if so to please raise them. No objections were received and so the current committee as it stands will continue. Anita Nicholls queried the role of being both Chairman and Trustee but was advised that a Trustee oversees financial obligations to the council in the event of a financial shortfall from site and it would not affect obligations of a chairman.

1st proposer Madeleine Bell 2nd Proposer Heather Adderley

11.Manure/Woodchip scheme – The price of manure has gone up and so the cost of the manure is to increase from £1.00 to £1.25 but woodchip is to stay at £1.00.

If you would like to pay by Bacs the details are –

North Outfall Allotment Association

Account – 21988168

Sort – 77-71-31

12.A.O.B – It was asked about the Ash die back problem not being resolved especially with the risk of damage to people or sheds should branches fall upon them, Gary advised that the council had been to have a look but had not returned and it was suggested that maybe a follow up email should be sent to chase up any action. Heather Adderley queried if it would help if the adjoining Bachelor Fields committee wrote a letter too possibly strengthen the case for action upon the council to act however James Nicholls the Chairman of the Friends of Bachelor Field group did not think this affected them as trees were on the boundary of the field. It was agreed that an email will be sent, and Gary is to speak to Chris from HBC who oversees the cutting of the hedges to see if he could provide a direct point of contact. Mr Pete Sanderson asked if the internal hedge was to be cut as well as it’s been a while with Gary going to ask Chris when he speaks to him.

Gary advised that this year’s rent was to increase by £1.00 per quarter due to the steep increases on the cost of water rates at site with everyone agreeing to this increase understanding the current cost of living.

James Nicholls insisted this be voted on to follow protocol, it was, and the motion was carried.

1st proposer Robin Adderley 2nd Proposer Les Jaques

This year’s rents are –

Quarter plot = £31.00

Half plot = £47.00

¾ plot = £63.00

Full plot = £79.00

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Peter Sanderson queried if anyone had been evicted or refused a renewal on their tenancy this year and was advised that there were one or two that will be being spoken to by the membership secretary before any renewal would take place.

Meeting ended.