

# North Outfall Allotment Association

## AGM

23rd October 2024

7.30pm Bilton Cricket Club

Attendee's

1. **Apologies** – received from 4 members.

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

1st proposer Peter Sanderson 2<sup>nd</sup> Proposer Andrew Thackwray

3. **Matters Arising** – none to report.

4. **Chairmans Report** – Thanked everyone that helped with the pumpkin patch from the volunteers who dug over the plot and planted the pumpkin plants to those that weeded and watered it but unfortunately due to frost the crop was lost. There is no pumpkin sale this year due to usual organisers being too busy and a lack of pumpkins to sell.

Thanked Mick Townsend for all his hard work keeping the grass mowed.

Thanked the council for doing the hedge along the lane border, explained that it was really our duty to do it but the chap from the council did it anyway.

Working weekends to start this weekend with the removal of Janets old shed so it could be burnt, if this does not take place in time for the burn weekend a skip would be hired to take the waste and rubbish away.

The following weekends work will be to clear some of the empty plots ready for them to be relet and the clearing and tidying of the current manure plot ready to receive some more manure in the coming months.

The manure supplier Mick is to be contacted to see if he is still delivering manure and if so, could we get some more. If not, we are in a bit of a quandary as the access for a delivery from a full-size tractor is extremely limited and likely to cause irreparable damage to grass paths.

Pete Sanderson has some spare seed catalogues for anyone who wishes to save up to 50% on their seed orders for the coming season.

No one has come forward to retain their key deposit and so it is now accepted that the deposit originally paid is now a charge for the key.

There is a new strimmer on site, a much smaller and lighter one that will be a lot easier to use than the previous industrial one.

Burn weekend to take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of November if weather permits if not it will be the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> with the water being turned off the following week of whichever weekend it was.

**5. Treasurers Report** – Rental Income for the year 23/24 = £3701.00 an increase of £467.00 on previous year.

Maintenance & Equipment costs - £566.27 – new strimmer and string included in this at £106.45 and repair and maintenance of the ride on mower at a cost of £459.82 which takes cost of maintenance overall to £107.15 more than previous year.

Water bill was £673.67 which was higher by £190.36 from previous year. Water Contributions - £39.00, £56.00 less than last year.

Manure payments - £33.50, £307.35 less than last year however much less manure has been available.

Woodchip Payments - £73.00, £37.00 less than last year, only three people paid for woodchip.

Insurance this year was £206.84 which was an increase of £3.56 on previous years cost of £203.28.

Client Lotto raised a total of £78.00 no increase on previous year.

Donations. £48.00 a decrease of £178.00 however no social events have been held this year which explains this decrease.

Started the year with £7937.17 in bank and are ending with £8105.89 an increase of £168.72 upon previous year,

Many thanks to Andrew Ferguson for Auditing accounts again.

**6. Membership Secretary Report** – The list remains healthy with 20 people currently on record as waiting for a plot, 9 new plot holders on site, 3 recent evictions, newcomers are being offered quarter plots with a £50.00 deposit being paid to ensure the plots are left in a reasonable condition when given up.

**7. Web Admin. Report** – Members were informed that the previous person who was overseeing this is no longer a committee member and has not engaged with any attempts at communication, Gary and I have spent the last year trying to get them to engage with us, but we have now stopped as it has proven to be extremely frustrating. Due to this we have lost the access we need to the website and associated emails, and we may have to arrange a new website/email and choose our own hosting company

It has been agreed by the committee that in future the control of these will no longer be held by one individual but by the whole committee and any login details to be held on record and handed down to whomever holds the various roles within the committee so we as an association do not find ourselves in this position again.

There will hopefully be an update forthcoming about who is taking over the role and as soon as anything is confirmed this information will be posted.

**8. Presentation of Bill Lodge Trophy** – Four plots were chosen by the judges to consider but this year's winner was Mick Townsend with the three other plots judged for the trophy being Phil Sibson, Ken Lowther and Lynn Carling.

**9. HDAF** – Entries to this year's show were down by 155 entries, it was felt this may be down to poor weather conditions. £600.00 donation was made to the 2024 chosen charity of Open Countryside. Overall best plot winner was Peter Walker and site winner was Pine Street. The HDAF AGM is on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2025 at Oatlands working men's club and the next show date is the 17th of August 2025. On a sadder note, two well-known contributors to the show have passed away, Mr Richard Henderson and Mr David Brockhurst

**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.

**11. AOB** – It was mentioned that the small gate is in a state of disrepair and needed properly fixing or replacing – going to be looked at on one of the working weekends,  
Locks are in a state of disrepair with a request that plot holders do not use WD40 as it is detrimental to the locks and that a product of liquid lithium is being used to repair them.

New Taps are being fitted as needed, currently there are four on the list to be replaced with the others being tested to see if there are any more to add to the list.

The taps are to be turned off after the burn weekend whether that be the 2/3 or 9/10 of November.

Meeting ended.

This year's rents are due no later than 30<sup>th</sup> of November to avoid incurring the £10.00 late payment charge.

Quarter plot = £35.00

Half plot = £52.50

$\frac{3}{4}$  plot = £70.00

Full plot = £87.50

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

North Outfall Allotment Association

Account – 21988168

Sort – 77-71-31