

Minutes of meeting at: Staines Rugby Club

13th September 2007

Chairman: Mr Keith Hitchman
Chairman Of Meetings: Mr Christopher Hill
Members Secretary: Mr John Treadwell
Minutes Secretary: Miss Dawn Johnston
Treasurer: Mrs Pat Johnston

Date 13th September 2007 held at Staines Rugby Club at 7pm

Present Julie, Tonia, Mel, Tim, John T, Chris, Keith, Dawn J, Pat

Apologies Colin, Ian, Julie H, Dawn S, Paul

Matters Arising From Last Meeting:

1. Security – No further instances reported of stranger around and no holes in back fence.
2. New padlock from Dawn S. Keys to be cut and distributed by Pat on the Social Day. Cost is to cover the cutting. The Council will be given two keys.
3. Spare Produce. Brett has been given some and herbs to follow.
4. Toilet. Lino down and trench dug for electrics. Ply up on three walls. Need Darryl to link up electrics and also need to plumb it in.
5. Next month is October renewals. Praba will not cancel plot holders unless they write to her. It will be apparent when people do not come for new keys.
6. Julie H. Do we need seed ordering again. All said yes as she does a wonderful job.
7. Hatton Road in Bedfont has a shop trading hut open on Sundays. Local traders were trying to stop this, they will now sell to any Hounslow allotment holders.
8. Church Road have a £10,000.00 grant. They have a tractor with a rotovator attachment, grass cutter plough and a bucket on the front. It is road worthy and they will bring it down at a price. They also provide a driver. If you want your plot done, please let Keith know. We may use it to recover the car parking area in the Spring.
9. Our accounts need to be audited. Julie H has offered to do it. Tonia proposed, Mel seconded, all in favour.
10. Grant News. Years ago a shop on Hamilton Parade donated £10,000.00 for community use. We have been awarded this money. The money is to be spent on the following:
11. Pond. We have a 25' wide plot. Jan Henson thinks we may benefit from help from professional designers. Chris to write to Praba.
12. The Road. It may be an independent person, the Council asked for another estimate.
13. Community Plot. We saw pictures of another community plot. Jan has suggested 1) we do it ourselves, 2) someone designs it and we choose, 3) we pay a community group to do it. Discussion followed with the following ideas. Two thirds with raised beds, different sizes, and a third with the beds flat. Grass area with pergola and shed for us to congregate. John T knows a designer who could give us ideas. May get two designs and then choose. We all voted for the community group to do our design, and this to be put to Jan. Julie suggested the Skills Centre in Boundaries Road to do the work. It was noted we need two metre wide paths for wheel chair access.

- 14 Pond ideas will wait and will be given much more thought. It will need a fence around to stop toddlers falling in. It will have a boggy area around and then leading to a meadow area. All native plants and/or fish. Pond will be at least 5' deep to stop it freezing in the winter. All agreed priority is the road, then community plot and lastly the pond.
15. The Brambles between 17 and 18. Chris would like to leave them to grow again. Keith explained plots were never measured and we lost a few plots, that is why it was let as 17a. Discussion left it unsolved.
16. Christmas Social. Tuesday 4 December 2007. Dawn J will check if Staines Rugby Club is free at 7 pm.
Sunday 28 October. Clean Up and Party Prep. We have raised £60.00 so far.
Firework Party. 29 October 2007. £5.00 adults, children free includes a burger/sausage. Fire to be on community plot.
17. Simon/Phil/Paul/Andy/Keith/Dawn J/Pat to dig the road and put scaffolding poles for our hoses.

Any Other Business

Some rubbish has been taken away. Rubbish is not to be left on the site. Please take your rubbish to Space Way. Compost area to be left and possibly turned over with a tractor in Spring. Metal area to be weed killed.

All agreed for a metal sign 'Snakey Lane Allotment Association' on the second gate.

Outstanding bills must come in so we can do accounts and get ready for the AGM.

AGM. Thursday 15 November 2007 at 7 pm, at Staines Rugby Club.

Meeting closed.