

## **Minutes of Annual General Meeting**

### **Ealing Allotments Partnership**

**March 6th 2018.**

**Polygon, St Mary's Church, Ealing W5.**

Approximately thirty members attended the Ealing Allotment Partnership AGM along with Mr Chris Welsh from LBE.

#### **1. Apologies for absence.**

Simon Higginson and Andy Doyle had sent their apologies for absence.

#### **2. Minutes of previous AGM.**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 were approved.

#### **3. Chair's report.**

Funding has been received from two funds: Heathrow Community and National Lottery. These funds had been matched by Ealing Parks Department whose generosity was thanked by the chair. At least fourteen, possibly sixteen composting toilets could now be funded. Five were already in progress or completed; a further six will shortly be delivered. Joseph Manger with other members of the committee had made many trips to sites across the borough which was especially interesting and rewarding.

The Ealing vineyard that was mooted at the last AGM was now progressing well and named: "The Horsenden Grape and Honey Farm". Funds had been raised from the Mayor of London Fund; Ealing Parks Department; North Greenford Ward Forum; Transform Your Space, Ealing and various private donations. A site has been chosen on Horsenden Hill and cleared. Glaxo Smith Kline had provided material for the roadway from their Greenford site. Buildings will be arriving in April and vines are being ordered. Invitations to visit will be sent out soon.

These events, together with various shows and events during 2017 and Ealing in Bloom had been well supported and were evidence that the Ealing Allotment scene was very healthy.

#### **4. Accounts.**

The Treasurer, Simon Higginson gave his apologies being on stage that evening at Questor's Theatre. The report was given by the Secretary John Bradley.

Previous accounts had been presented up to the end of the previous tax year i.e. the previous April. Therefore accounts were nearly twelve months old by the time of the AGM. This year and in the future the accounts will be consolidated as close to the AGM as practicable hence the accounts given at this year's AGM covered the period from December 2016, when the Metro Bank account was opened until the present.

Approximately £17,000 had been received to fund the composting toilet programme with a further £1,000 promised. Thanks were given to Hilary Jayne for having secured this funding. Accounts this year had been complicated by the purchase of toilets through Ealing Borough Council though this had resulted in significant saving to the programme. The current balance was **£13,737.86** though most of this money was earmarked for the composting toilet programme.

A question was raised above the ethics of banking with Metro Bank and the reason for the change in bank. JB answered that the committee appreciated concerns raised, but the change had been made purely on ensuring practical convenience for those handling EAP's finances, especially as they are all volunteers. As it was anticipated that funds would return to their usual low level by next year there was little cause for concern and the charity account opened was provided free of charge.

#### **5. London Borough of Ealing report.**

Chris Welsh submitted the attached report for the meetings consideration.

#### **6. Change of Constitution.**

As there was a restriction to the number of members on the committee and there were more people wanting to be on the committee than the constitution allowed it was recommended that the following changes to the constitution be made i.e. the Clause H (i) should now read:

"H i. Executive Committee shall consist of not less than 7 members being:

- a. honorary officers specified in the preceding clause;
- b. a representative of Ealing Council;
- c. not less than 3 and not more than 8 members elected at the annual general meeting; all of whom shall hold office from the conclusion of that meeting."

The proposal was adopted *nem. con.*

#### **7. Election of Officers and Executive Committee Members.**

The following were elected by the meeting *nem. con.*: **John Bradley** (secretary, Blondin); **Mike Bunyan** (Jubilee); **Paul Carter** (Ascott); **Andy Doyle** (Braund Avenue); **Christina Fox** (Ealing Dean); **Simon Higginson** (treasurer, High Lane); **Hilary Jayne** (Framfield); **Joseph Mangar** (chairman, Horsenden) and **Patrick Williams** (Brentham).

After the vote JB, as secretary, reminded the meeting that there were limits to the length of time any particular member could be on the committee (five years) or serve as officers (three years), consequently there will a need to have new members come forward to continue the work.

**8. Any other business.**

Mike Bunyan advised the meeting of forthcoming changes to the privacy of information legislation that would come into effect on the 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018. This would primarily affect mailing lists. More about this would be presented at the next Managers' Meeting.

The formal business of the meeting having been concluded there followed a presentation by Lucy Clarke on the work carried out by the mental health charity 'Mindfood'. After a break for refreshments Nic Ferriday gave an illustrated talk on the history and work of the Perivale Woold Local Nature Reserve.