Coton Community Allotments Association

The funding for the allotment project has been provided by Shropshire Council

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 09 March 2022 @ 19:00

Zoom Meeting

1. Attendance

Present:

Simon Howard (SH)	Plot 15 (Chair)
Charles Mansell (CM)	Plots 46 + 49 (Secretary)
Kay Hawkins (KH)	Plots 21 + 22 (Treasurer)
Alan and Lucy Howells	Plots 1 + 2
Tony and Julia Lord	Plots 16 + 17
Claire Kirby	Plots 11+37
Fliss Gaskin	Plot 3
Doreen Hancock	Plots 23+24
Phil and Libby Oliver	Plot 18
Clare and Dave McGarry	Plots 4+5
Pauline Wilson	Plot 47
Joe Hoyle	Plot 10

Apologies:

Fred and Fiona Owen	Plots 12+13+14
Pat Mansell	Plot 43
Sophie Bell (SB)	Plot 20

SH welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance.

2. Agenda

Chair's Report, Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report (summary of the 2021 accounts) and the minutes from the 2021 AGM were circulated to all members in February 2022 via email. The Chair's Report, Secretary's Report/2021 AGM minutes and 2021 accounts were briefly presented during the meeting by SH, CM and KH, respectively. SH had not received any queries from members, or volunteers for any of the committee roles.

Other items discussed at this AGM included:

- Approval of officers
- Task list and workdays
- Social events and fundraising ideas
- AOB
    - Bees / Wasps
    - NAS

- Fires
- Tool Share

3. Approval of Officers

CM (Chair) and SB (Secretary) were appointed by a show of hands during the AGM, with KH (Treasurer) remaining in her role until the next AGM. SH has stood down as Chair and will assist CM with handover of Chair's role until the end of the current lease.

4. Task List

Hedges/trees: we have arranged for a tree specialist (Josh Arrowsmith) to undertake some maintenance work on the trees. **Action: CM to chase**, all agreed with recent weather he may be busy.

Claire Kirby (CK) has a contact at CHEAG (Coton Hill Environment Action Group) and suggested that they come to site and provide a hedge-laying workshop. **KH / CK to follow up**.

CM suggested that we may be able to work with them on other sites to the benefit of CCAA.

Shed Roof: Alan Howells (AH) is still committed to undertake the work having now recovered from illness. **CM to work with AH**.

General Site Maintenance: all involved with site maintenance were thanked by the committee for their efforts and we hope they will continue.

5. Social Events

Nothing proposed but the committee and the site are always welcome to any suggestions.

6. AOB

Bees / Wasps / Rabbits: Committee congratulated Clare and Dave McGarry (CMG/DMG) on becoming qualified members of the Bee Keeping Society; a beehive has now been located on site and the position has been chosen to minimise disturbance. **CMG to arrange a Bees workshop** onsite and field questions from members; e.g. what can be planted to help the bees.

CMG/DMG have placed signs and information posters on site to identify different types of bees, etc.

CM raised a point that rabbits have been spotted on site in Feb/Mar this year so we are expecting a return and asked members to check their fences and make sure their plots are protected.

CM asked members to be cautious as we have had a wasp problem on site for many years, currently they should be hibernating but in certain conditions they may be anywhere on site. If anyone has clothing, gloves boots etc. in their sheds these should be checked every couple of months and also check shed roofs as wasps will build a nest quite quickly.

NAS: we are asked by NAS annually to submit contact details for all members. The committee position is that we will not supply NAS with anyone's information unless we have members' consent. KH to speak with members and submit their contact information if requested.

Fires: we encourage members to minimise bonfires on their plots and ensure they are supervised at all times. We have a communal incinerator on site and members have the option to either use it on their plot or in the flat communal area. The committee's position on fires is to ensure these are carried out safely and with a bucket of water on hand to make sure it is completely extinguished before leaving the site.

Tool Share: whilst we now live with COVID, tool sharing is not encouraged as we wish to continue efforts to minimise risk of infection etc. However, CM will donate a wheelbarrow to the site and locate it in the communal shed.

Meeting closed at 19:40 due to Zoom meeting time restriction. A further meeting maybe proposed, to be confirmed.