Coton Community Allotments Association

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, 05 March 2023 @ 14:30

Quaker Meeting House, Corporation Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 2NU

Agenda

1. Welcome, Attendance and Apologies
2. Minutes from AGM 2022 (virtual)
3. Chair's Report
4. Secretary's Membership Report
5. Treasurer's Finance Report
6. Project Bee
7. Election of officers and volunteering for non-committee roles
8. NAS member details and database
9. Task list, workdays, and social events
10. Any other business

1. Attendance

Present:

Charles Mansell (CM)	Plots 44 and 46 (Chair)
Sophie Bell (SB)	Plot 20 (Secretary)
Kay Hawkins (KH)	Plots 21 and 22 (Treasurer)
Allan & Lucy Howells	Plot 1 and 2
Clare & Dave McGarry (C&D)	Plot 4 and 5
Bill & Dorothy Dargue	Plot 3
Michael Bradder	Plot 48
Pat Mansell	Plots 43 and 49
Fred & Fiona Owen	Plots 12, 13 and 14
Fliss Gaskin	Plots 6 and 7
Suzie Roy	Plots 8 and 35
Kevan Baguley	Plot 45

Apologies:

Beverly Fry	Plot 25
Ron Charles	Plot 42
Claire and Tim Kirby	Plots 37 and 38

CM welcomed all and thanked them for their attendance.

2. Minutes from AGM 2022 (SB)

The minutes of the AGM 2022, which was held virtually over Zoom, were presented by SB. No queries were raised by members.

3. Chair's Report (CM)

- Hazel – can be coppiced by anyone, safely and neatly close to the ground.
- People can feel free to remove the tree guards along hedge row.
- Tool share still discouraged but allowed.
- Water coming back on in March.
- Toilet back open.
- Ongoing problems with lock on gate but has now been locked to post.

4. Secretary's Membership Report (SB)

- All plots filled as of last Friday.

5. Treasurer's Finance Report (KH)

- **Opening balance** on 1 January 2022- of £3938.55.
- **Income** - full complement of plot fees received due to all plots being taken and £3 NAS membership from all members, plus donations of £72. Total income £1,910.90.
- **Expenditure** – half of plot fees paid to Berwick Estate in two instalments (total £789). £3 paid to NAS/NASLG for each member. Didn't receive a bill from the agents for the new lease. Insurance paid through NAS. Postage for lease being sent to lease officers. Website and domain renewed every 2 years so wasn't needed in 2022. Equipment - purchased a sledgehammer which is stored in community shed. Maintenance and repairs included the arboriculture work, tap post re-done, lock on gate. Total expenditure £1,294.43.
- **Closing balance** at end of December 2022 = £4555.02 of which £4525.47 was in the bank and £29.55 was petty cash.
- **Anticipated income and expenditure for coming year (2023)** – NAS fee of £3 per member is expected to remain the same for 2023. £250 allowance in case we receive a bill for the lease renewal and another £100 allowed for water rates in case these are charged (cumulative allowance of £1,200 to end of 2023). Website and domain renewals will be due in 2023 and £300 allowed for shed roof repairs and works on the hedgerows.

6. Project Bee (C&D)

- Bees going well – the bees left one hive last November, but the others are going well. Should hopefully have honey in August and Clare and Dave will post a post on Facebook for people to buy some and this will fund future equipment and the jars used.
- One tap on water butt leaking, this is attracting the bees to swarm.
- Clare has suggested planting more hedgerow in top boundary to help the bees – has emailed the council about hedgerow bundles (£18 a bundle) so we might get some of this. 20 bushes along that top boundary? Available in autumn. Waiting on response.

7. Election of officers and volunteering for non-committee roles

- No volunteers for the committee and any of the committee roles were received and the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer were happy to continue in their roles.

- No longer have Phil to manage the fire so anything that needs burning, please can members do this themselves using the incinerator. Same goes for any rubbish.

8. NAS member details and database

- KH has not provided NAS with a list of our members.
- Potential of group email to forward any emails from NAS.

9. Task list, workdays and social events

- Potential workdays during the summer.
- No social events in the pipeline currently but would like to organise some things.

10. AOB

- Getting a skip on site to fill and take away so we can have a big clear up. Charles Bell could get a good one for a good price potentially? Might have for around 4 days. Need to look at cost.
- Potential honesty produce box for people to share produce, seeds etc. and raise funds.
- Potential to give excess produce to Food Hub.
- Communal compost bays – going to dismantle, put contents in the skip/use for compost. Going to build a big communal one behind apple tree next to wood chip. Use a rotation system and have signs on.
- Anything, like big chunks of wood, can make bug hotels along the hedgerow left of the gate.