EWAA Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 7th March 2017, 7.30

Chair: Clare Ferguson

Minutes: Meryl Wilford

Present: Pat Mansfield, Nicola Jones, Jane Millar, Jevon Lancaster, Antoine Flett, Peter Corcutt, John Butler, Stewart Young, Chris Parker, Jon Willis

Apologies: Jane Nimmo-Smith

1. **Matters arising - Water troughs are in progress**.

* Although we have the grant for extra taps, it is a struggle to get anyone to do the plumbing work. 2 people approached but neither plumber willing to take on the job. (It seems that the difficulty is access to the pipe-work, as it is buried quite deeply and doesn’t run along the roads.)
* Overflow tanks have been added to the shop water tanks so people can use watering-cans to take water as the taps no longer work.
* Another application for an additional grant has been made for harvesting more rainwater from the shop area. (4 cubic metres /month) Pumping would be involved.

1. **Membership Waiting lists**.

* Three vacant plots – 1a, 200b, 201b – all very overgrown. (96 is now let) Waiting list of two people.
* Plot 97. Could fruit trees be grown on 97? Perhaps it is too wet. Alternatively, plot 97 could be offered to Wildlife group as space to store their coppicing. On-going discussion about possible use of this plot: it is very dark, overshadowed by trees.
* Community Payback group – Probation service supervisor is coming for initial meeting with Jevon on Thursday 9th March 1.30.
* Could work on the carparks
* Potholes
* Possibly collecting rubbish
* Next plot inspection probably at the end of April maybe after the Easter Bank holiday.
* 10 days notice to be given before inspection.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

(Jon away till end of the month.)

Grant applied for is £380.

Shop sales going well: more sales than in same period last year.

1. **Shop**

* Potatoes – no King Edwards but Kerr Pink supplied instead. Beans and carrots arriving within next week. Netting will be arriving shortly.
* Extended opening hours 10-12 in March and April then back to 11-12.
* There have been two loads of manure. Just about covered its costs at £2.00 a barrowload. Another load will be ordered for April.

1. **Machinery**

Toro still with Mr Bark.

Stewart to organize new mowing rota.

1. **Site boundaries:**

**Boundaries with OUWG**.

* Chris has agreed boundaries with Alan Hart and these are now mapped and plotted with stakes. There is still some discussion about the “buffer zones” and who has responsibility of upkeep of buffer zones.
* Plot-holders feel trees create shade onto adjacent plots. There is a 5 metre rule but at the end of road 1, there are trees which are 7 or 8 metres tall and the agreement is that they should not exceed 5 metres. Therefore Chris will go back and talk to Alan about further cutting.
* Gate posts are not in the correct place.
* In zone 3, the buffer zone will be cut back.
* Row 4: we need to clear the litter blown onto OUWG by storm Doris.
* Plot 151 had gone into the “buffer zone” and been planted and soil has been dumped there and therefore the OUWG bar-cutter can’t be used. Chris to contact plot-holder.
* Buffer zones are actually on EWAA land.

**Wood chipping carpark**

* Chris to look into light and fake camera

1. **White house project**

Looks like there may be some movement as a businessman has shown an interest in helping Shed Oxford.

1. **Fruit tree talk and sale on Saturday 11th March.**
2. **AOB**

Possible social / plant swap in May tbc. Meryl and Bridget to discuss.

Next meeting second Thursday in May.