

Association Meeting 14 March 2006  
1930. usual venue.

Apologies Mike Frost, Jenny Low

Previous minutes accepted

Matters arising

1. Appointments accepted of chair (Rob Sutton), secretary (Mike Parkes), membership secretary (Mick O'Malley) and steering committee .....
2. Manure. Charlie in Tamworth (day 0771 980 4443, evening 01827 892 293) has offered to deliver horse manure in black bin bags @10 bags for £11. He can also supply mushroom compost at £2 per bag. It is suggested that members get together and order in bulk to make deliveries more efficient.
3. Lack of clarity in annual payment arrangements. Apparently it is necessary when making the annual allotment payment to put your name, address and plot number on the paying in slip. In some cases eviction notices have been received by those who have paid!
4. Renting new allotments. We understand that Grainger's think there are 2-3 allotments available but that no more are to be let out until further notice. Rob Sutton will shortly meet with Grainger's to discuss availability of allotments and whether we can offer any help to Grainger's in ensuring more allotments are taken up.
5. MSALG. We are now affiliated and can obtain the MSALG magazine and seed catalogue for £4 for 4 issues.
6. Council help in clearing derelict allotments. We understand that Mike Whitby feels that a decision on this may not be appropriate until after the public meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March.
7. Membership. We now have approximately 22 paid and 4 unpaid members. Having paid the MSALG fee (£35), our funds are approximately £44.9 .
8. Notice board and website. These will be considered when Mike Frost returns.
9. Charter appraisal management plan. We understand that allotments are to be discussed. Points raised were that if the council took over allotments
  - a) we did not feel it appropriate to raise the allotment rents to council levels while the Moorpool allotments lack standard allotment facilities
  - b) we did not feel it appropriate to impose changes or standardising of allotment size (size variations are a unique feature of the Moorpool allotments)
  - c) for the time being, as long as allotments are kept tidy then we did not feel it appropriate to enforce stricter allotment regulations or inspections (the imaginative and varied horticultural use of allotments are also a unique feature of the Moorpool allotments that we would wish to preserve and promote)
  - d) we hoped that help might be offered in boundary maintenance (some of the hedges are too overgrown to be manageable and some of the other boundary fencing is very dilapidated)
  - e) we hoped that some of the deliberately unused allotment area at the bottom of Margaret Grove could be made available to the number of people interested in taking new allotments
  - f) we would ask that the council might consider delegation of the running of the Moorpool allotments to some form of Moorpool allotment Trust that can ensure the continuation and encouragement of the rather special features of the Moorpool allotments
10. Thanks. The association thanked Charles for printing the membership cards and Mick O'Malley for his energy and enthusiasm in getting the allotment association up and running.
11. Next meeting. The next general meeting will be on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October and will be preceded by special meeting of the steering committee as appropriate following the public meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> March.