

## ROSEDALE ROAD & BULL MEADOW ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

### MEETING 11<sup>TH</sup> November 2022

#### Present:

S Simmonds, A Collins, D Smith, M Barnes, J Bishop, J Stephens, K Stephens, L Dartnell, S Carter, C Davison, A Davison, W Alabaster, J Alabaster, C Cheeseman, S Cheeseman, T Whiberley, L Brede, C Robertson, G Ashurst, K Fisher, J Priest, A Klecha, S Klecha, K Walsh, S Walsh (25 total)

Apologies: C Collins, G Nicholson, B Childs

#### Matters Arising:

None

#### Rosedale Road Report:

Overall the site is looking good. No more rubbish/wood to be left at bonfire end please.  
Scalpings delivery expected – to be used on repositioned driveway.

Wood chippings delivery at Rosedale Rd entrance; next delivery will be placed at Boscombe Rd entrance. Two manure deliveries were quickly gone, another due next week.

Timber (a variety of sizes up to 8ft x 4ft) has been delivered/donated. This includes sheets of ply wood that have been treated on one side with waterproofing. Please help yourself. AK to discuss with John roofing needs for the shed at BM – will the plywood be useful?

Repairs have begun on the IBCs at Boscombe Road entrance, including the oak tree being trimmed.

Metal & car batteries can be donated for scrap. Please leave in the wooden lean-to store at the immediate right Rosedale Road entrance.

Scaffold board and netting delivery expected next Saturday 10am at RR. Please let AK know how many you want, £1 per long board. AK will deliver the shorter boards to BM.

A new member has asked if allowed to keep chickens on their plot. This is allowable under the tenancy agreement. However, with the current Avian Flu epidemic it is advisable not to do so.

Water will be turned off for the winter next week.

#### Bull Meadow Report:

Manure delivery at BM, paid for out of scaffold board money, £70 left to pay for future deliveries. Wood chippings delivery expected soon.

Water turned off for the winter.

John expected to start work on shed soon.

Scaffold boards – let AK know if you want shorter boards from RR delivery moved to BM.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Thank you to Jayne for her perseverance with Barclay's Bank – now all resolved and they have made a donation of £100 to RRBMAA as an apology. Balance £4974.86

Subs – two were late to pay subs, one paid the late fee, the other declined to pay and has given up his plot; still waiting for his key to be returned.

Water bills have been paid – RR £515 and BM £51

Seed order has been sent; £48.78 profit made from 12 orders. The number of orders is down again on previous years. Delivery expected second week of December, Jayne will deliver them to your door.

Donation of £60 received from residents of Rosedale Road as a thank you to the AA for taking the compostable waste that had been collected in their clear up.

SC asked that RR plots to be numbered from the balance – AC has most of the materials but will need to purchase post mix. It was agreed that this would proceed.

Raffle tonight raised £23.50, well done Sheila and Clive.

#### A.O.B.

New Thurrock Council lease -

Clive Robertson as acting chair of the Thurrock Allotment Steering Group, has met with Thurrock Council who have confirmed the new leases will be 7 years at a cost of £35 – to be raised £5 a year thereafter.

AK (Chair) has met with Jahur Ali, Recreation and Leisure Services Manager for Thurrock Council (allotments now come under Parks and Recreation) at RR site. Rent will be £35 for the first year, rising £5 a year to the end of the 7 year lease. AK anticipates that it will be just £35 to cover both RR and BM as there is one overarching association and committee. Site fee is taken to cover the insurance policy Thurrock Council has to take out. AK was impressed with JA; felt he listened and was approachable, also knew RR & BM sites are statutory. JA impressed with the dipping troughs water management system. New lease expected in the New Year and will be sent to SW (Secretary). This will need to be formally signed by AK (Chair), SW (Secretary) and TC staff.

CR reported that the Camellia donated by Chadwell Garden Centre, in memory of Tony Briggs, has now been planted in the garden at Boscombe Rd entrance.

CR to report back on best time to order Grow Organic – there will be an order placed for a palette of 72 bags, to be sold onto allotment members at £6.50 a bag.

CC reported that Bull Meadows wetland on the old nursery site to the south of the allotments is looking promising the Environment Agency is now involved and are interested.

NALSG – RRBMAA are members and as such receive 6 hard copies of the quarterly magazine. If you would like to read and pass on please speak to Clive or Sheila Cheeseman. The magazine can also be read online but need membership id and password to do so.

Veg Talk – SC asked for advice re drought resistant plants. Suggestions included checking seed catalogues for plants that are highlighted as drought resistant; planting onions and garlic; keeping plot weeded so weeds not taking the moisture in the soil.

Competition results from AGM –

Best below ground 1) Andy Klecha for potatoes, 2) Mandy Runeckles for parsnip, 3) Tina Whiberley for carrots  
Best above ground 1) Kevin Fisher for celery, 1) AK for pears, 2) Pat Jay for pumpkins, 3) Green peppers (apologies name was not recorded)

Social – Bonfire cancelled for 2022. The rubbish will be burnt in smaller amounts over the next few weeks; no further wood to be added please.

#### Next Meeting –

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 7.30pm

Christmas Social Quiz – you are invited, with family and friends, to form teams of four, or make your own teams on the night. Bring snacks, nibbles and two horticulturally related questions & answers.