

## ROSEDALE ROAD & BULL MEADOW ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

### MEETING 10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

1. Present: A Klecha (Chair), S Walsh (Secretary), C Cheeseman, S Cheeseman, K Walsh, B Childs, B Alabaster, J Alabaster, S Carter, A Mead, C Collins (11 total)
2. Apologies: S Simmonds, A Davison, C Davison, C Robertson, S Klecha, D Smith, A Collins, L Dartnell, T Whiberley, L Brede, J Fielder, J Stephens (12 total)
3. Minutes from 8<sup>th</sup> September 23: agreed
4. Matters Arising:
  - a) Scaffold Boards – delivered and all sold. AK paid £70 and made £123 profit for the RRBMAA.
  - b) Plot Inspections – the **summer inspection** round has been completed, a number of letters were sent to plotholders across both Rosedale Road and Bull Meadow sites. Three tenants gave up their plots; one tenant was evicted. The vacant plots have either been allocated or are in the process of being cleared so they can be offered to new plot holders. **Autumn inspection** rounds have been completed – only a few plotholders were asked to take specific remedial action. The inspection team did note a few general action points from across both sites. Please check the height of any fruit trees you may be growing; now is the time to prune and trim fruit trees, in particular apple and pear, up to March. Andy Klecha has offered to advise if any plotholders are unsure how to tackle the pruning.
  - c) Refreshing Remembrance Garden – carried from AGM; meeting agreed to carry forward to January meeting as the person raising the matter was unable to attend this meeting.
5. Rosedale Road Report (Andy Klecha):
  - a) Wood chips and manure needed.
  - b) Thanks go to B Childs and C Robertson who have cleared and tidied weeds on plot 35W to start clearing ready for any new tenant, AK to spray.
  - c) CR has corrected numbers on plots 29N & 29S, as they were the wrong way round.
  - d) Water has been turned off, AC asks that plotholders help to empty the tanks to halfway. Aiming to prevent the leaks from frozen pipework experienced last year.
6. Bull Meadow Report (Andy Klecha):
  - a) Wood chips and manure needed.
  - b) AK has pruned the fruit trees for the new plotholder.
  - c) The vacated plot, 29A, needs extensive clearing before it can be offered to a new tenant; AK & CC to clear and spray weeds and brambles.
  - d) Gates have been fixed.
  - e) Hedge trimmer purchased and stored securely in the shed.
  - f) Water turned off.
7. Treasurer's Report (Jane Fielder, via email):
  - a) Balance at 10/11/23 is £4771.55
  - b) All subscriptions have been paid.
  - c) King's seed order has been sent; making a £51 profit for RRBMAA. Last year a £69 profit was made, this is a reflection that fewer orders were made this year.
8. Membership Secretary's Report (Sheila Cheeseman):
  - a) 17 on waiting list
9. Social:
  - a) Daytrip feedback – unfortunately no takeup for this suggestion. The meeting thanked Tina W for trying.
  - b) November Bonfire and BBQ – postponed from Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November, now on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 5 pm at RR site
  - c) Christmas Quiz or Christmas Indoor Bowls – will be a Christmas Quiz, the indoors bowls suggestion would not work in practice with regard to the kit needed upstairs in quite a small room. Thanks to Alan C for suggesting and seeing if it could work. Christmas Social on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 7.30pm upstairs at Tyrells Hall Club. This will be a friendly informal quiz – please bring two, horticultural themed questions and answers and any snacks you may want. There will be prizes and booby prizes at stake!

10. Any Other Business:

- a) Smith's Garden Centre discount cards should be returned once a plothead leaves the site; that doesn't always happen so we are running out of cards to give to new tenants. SW to write and ask for a new supply.
- b) Raffle raised £9 – thanks to Sheila and Clive
- c) **Veg Talk** – Celeriac bulbs start to swell now, won't be as big as can buy in supermarkets; can use tops and leaves for soups and stews.

Jerusalem artichokes – spread very quickly, are ready for digging now, make excellent soups Potato, Jerusalem artichoke and thyme ([Thomasina Miers' recipe for potato and jerusalem artichoke soup | Food | The Guardian](#)) or Carrot and artichoke ([Carrot and Artichoke Soup | Recipes | Delia Online](#)). Lovely roasted but can cause side effects!

Brussel sprouts don't seem to be doing so well at the moment, Bob C suggested a good fee of chicken manure would help.

Onions – still time to plant overwintering onions, Japanese varieties do really well and are still on sale in garden centres.

Also a good time to plant out garlic, broad beans and winter lettuce. Good time of year to move fruit bushes – once all leaves have dropped and after a light pruning.

Sharron C asked for advice on killing of a bullus stump she has tried using weedkiller several times but not working; Andy K will look and advise further.

11. Next Meeting: **Our next meeting will be the Christmas Social on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 7.30pm upstairs room, Tyrells Hall Club.**

**Please bring two horticulturally themed questions, with the answers and any snacks. Bring family, friends, your team, or join/make up a team on the night. Hope to see you there!**