

# NORTH OUTFALL ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

## **CHAIRMAN**

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## **TREASURER**

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## **SECRETARY**

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## **MINUTES OF THE A.G.M. HELD ON FRIDAY 31 OCTOBER 2014.**

### Apologies.

Were received from Alan Bjelan, Emma Bennett, Pauline Houghton, Claire Walsh, Steve Atkinson, Robin Adderley, Andy Dobby, Janet English, Andy Nicholls, Mick & Julia Wilcockson, Betty Syril.

The minutes of the last AGM were circulated and agreed. Proposed by Geoff Badger and seconded by Trevor Black.

### Matters arising.

None.

### Chairman's Report.

Grenville thanked all (21) tenants for attending. Grenville then went onto reflect for a moment on the deaths of a couple of tenants husbands and of Peter Drane, a committee member. He then went onto to say that he was always pleased by the judges' comments on our site and that again we had won 'Best Site'. He also hoped that the committee met the requirements of the members, however he was always disappointed that when asked to help with maintenance it was always the same people who came along despite it being a requirement of the tenancy agreement.

### Secretary's Report.

Brenda outlined the events of the past year, no major problems but that there had been a report of a row of carrots being dug up! We used the new hedge trimmer for the first time at the inspection working weekend and that the site looked particularly well when the judges visited.

The BBQ and coffee mornings were once again well attended.

In August Rachel Christy volunteered for the BBC programme at RHS, this is to be televised in January so look out for her pink wellies.

The only disappointing area this year had been that some new tenants had struggled with their plots and gave up. We are hoping that making some plots into 1/4 plots and that Fiona acting as a mentor (if needed) will help. The waiting list stands at 14 with 5 plots available.

Brenda went onto to thank Grenville for all the support that he had given her and for all the work he had done on behalf of the Association.

### Treasurer's Report.

Peter presented the NOAA balance sheet for 2014 (copy on file). We had started the year with £2,677.10 cash in the bank and ended it with £2,939.37. The decisions taken by a previous committee has left us on a secure footing and therefore we felt that we were able to continue to maintain the site and this coming year we propose renewing the top gate at an estimated cost of £300. The rent to HBC in 2015 would be increasing from £800 pa to £1525pa as from April, this was reflected in the increase in rents to tenants. Peter thanked Andrew Ferguson for auditing the accounts and for his help and advice.

The Treasurers report and rent increase and the proposal to renew the top gate were accepted unanimously.

### Constitution Amendment.

The proposed changes to the constitution as set out in the agenda were accepted. Proposed by P Sanderson Seconded by G Salt. Carried unanimously.

**Tenancy Agreement  
Amendment.**

The proposed changes to the tenancy agreement outlined in the agenda were accepted.  
Proposed by P Sanderson Seconded by G Salt. Carried unanimously.

**Communal Area/Manure  
Area.**

Brenda set out the objectives of this proposal that the committee continually try to improve the site for its members. To this end we are to create an area which can be used for burning and for the use a greenhouse and shed for the 3 tenants on plot 21.

Proposed by B Black Seconded F Walker This was passed with 3 against.

The proposal of an area for manure (which would be for a trial period of a year) stimulated a lively debate.

Proposed by B Black Seconded by F Walker Carried with 2 Against and 5 Abstentions.

**Election of Officers.**

The following were nominated and seconded:-

Chairman                      Treasurer – Peter Sanderson,                      Secretary – Brenda Black.

**Election of Committee.** Steve Atkinson, Fiona Walker, Sally Parry and David Duff.

**Auditor.**

Andrew Ferguson.

The committee propose to alternate the Chairman's duties at each meeting.  
The election of officers was passed unanimously.

Trevor Black proposed a vote of thanks to Grenville Salt and Clive Pickles for their contributions to the Association over the years. This was passed unanimously.

**Presentation of Award  
for Best Plot.**

The award this year was entirely independently judged. This year's winner of the Bill Lodge Memorial Cup was Fiona Walker. Very well done.

**Any other  
business.**

1. Web site. We are looking for a volunteer to take on our excellent web site as Larry is stepping down. Thank you to him for all the work he has put into this project.
2. Bachelor Fields Group has asked that we help clear the top hedge in preparation for planting whips in the gaps. Eric to come back with dates.
3. The mower for use by tenants to be moved to the hut on plot 17A to enable easy access for cutting paths on plots.
4. Greenhouse still available contact Geoff Badger.
5. Eric asked if it would be possible to install CCTV on site.
6. Julia brought pens and leaflets re: crime prevention, and explained why CCTV would be inappropriate. Thank you to her.

Meeting Closed at 8.45pm.

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