

BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY



Centre for Local Food,
Unit 17, St Michael's Trading Estate, Foundry Lane,
Bridport DT6 3RR



AGM 15th of September 2021

Minutes

Meeting commenced 7.05pm

1. Apologies received from: Charles Wild Ian Bark, & Lynne Scrannage

Those attending:

Alexander Gurini, Anne Snellgrove, Barry Thomas, Bob Driscoll, Brian Atkinson, Colin Sparkes, Fiona Dare, Jane Abbott, John Abbott, Louise Ferguson, Lynne Atkinson, Mandy Rathbone, Roger Harris, Roger Pollock.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of past meeting were agreed

Matters arising:

Purchasing the phone box in South Street proved to be too difficult to achieve. it would've cost £1000 from BTC for insurance et cetera so the idea is now dropped - It would be okay in a village but not so in the middle of town where vandalism could be a problem. The box is still there and being used for community use as is the one in Bothenhampton.

BADAS discount from Pennard's Plants is not yet confirmed and should be confirmed as soon as possible..

How many allotments are there in the borough? Colin Sparkes suggested about 200 but not quite sure of the exact total

3. Chair's report

2021 has been a year of odd weather-cold, hot, too much rain, too little! I hope that everyone has managed to grow some good crops.

As new Chair, I've been round to all the sites for a good look and realized that not all have notice boards. As these can be useful for passing on information to plot holders, Daryl

Chambers of BTC has ordered some for us to install in the near future (they are just awaiting legs!).

Daryl also arranged for the fence at Skilling North to be fixed and the gates to be freed up, having been contacted by us about their poor state.

Our Website has been overhauled by a subcommittee who met weekly on Zoom at the start of the year and now looks great with current news, hints and tips and a monthly recipe to mention but a few things. I hope that members will make use of it and send in contributions.

The plan for a BADAS Hub was hatched and it is now in place, courtesy of Daryl finding us space, including a very nice shed supplied and installed by local firm Beaminster Sheds who were very pleasant to deal with. The hub will be used for social events, plant and seed swaps and we are open to member suggestions for other activities. The Hub is expanding to include the lower half of plot 40 where it is planned to plant fruit trees in the autumn. Our BADAS BBQ was held at the Hub on 15th July - the weather was perfect and a good time was had by all who attended. A big thank you to those who helped make it a success with a special mention of Chris who lent his tables etc. and Dan with whom he prepared the site and helped clear up afterwards.

More good news is that we now have a new Newsletter Editor, Jeni, who has kindly stepped up to join us and was co-opted onto the committee to fill this post.

As of the start of this month, there were 91 people living in the parish on the waiting list for an allotment and 54 living outside so there is a continuing interest in growing our own food and enjoying the outdoors in this way.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to BADAS this past year. Considering the difficulties caused by the pandemic, we have achieved a lot in the last 12 months.

4. Treasurer & Membership Secretary's Report:

BRIDPORT AND DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY Annual Statement 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021

Income

	2021	2020
Subscriptions current year		
Direct paid to BADAS	71.00	62.00
Burton Bradstock	40.00	52.00
Paid via Bridport Town Council	302.00	280.00
		394.00
Potato Day Income		446.00
Total Income	413.00	840.00

Expenditure

Stationery	)		
Stamps	)	137.31	134.45
Photocopying/Membership cards)			
Website Costs (2 years)		120.00	
Phone Costs			52.00
Name Badges			19.50
Raffle Prizes			10.00
Summer BBQ		74.51	
Xmas Gifts to BTC		8.50	8.00
Linda Bullock leaving gift			28.43

Charles Wild leaving gift	40.00	
Potato Day - Church Hall Hire		95.00
Donation to Word Forest		351.00
Purchase of Shed for BADAS Hub	1130.00	
Total Expenditure	1562.32	646.38
Surplus/Deficit	(1149.32)	193.62
Balances		
Cash at bank 31 August	40.02	1209.74
Petty cash	<u>72.86</u>	<u>52.46</u>
	112.88	1262.20
 Increase/decrease in funds	 (1149.32)	 193.62
 Number of members		
Paid up	208	190

Mandy Rathbone/ Treasurer & Membership Secretary 01/09/21

5. Election of Officers.

Chairman: Fiona Dare

Secretary: Lynne Atkinson

Treasurer & Membership Secretary: Mandy Rathbone

6. Nominations and election the society's committee.

Committee member: Roger Pollock

Committee member: Colin Sparkes

Committee member: Barry Thomas

Committee member: John Abbott

Committee member (minute taker): Brian Atkinson

Committee member (Burton Bradstock) *(Mary Ibbotson may not continue - Secretary will check with Geoff Adderley).*

Committee member (editor, News Letter): Jeni Edwards

(Jeni is not sure of the job specification and thinks that most information is already on the website she also said she is difficult to determine the badass culture and is a little suspicious of of check answers here)

7. Annual Subscriptions

The Subs have been 2 pounds for the last 20 years! The Garden Club charges £10 but have changed so

that the card is for an address rather than for an individual. They also have lectures and excursions. Roger suggested that we should emphasize our benefits - and not just the benefit of the Grove's card. A proposal was made for an increase to £5 per annum, and was unanimously passed.

8. BADAS Hub

We are currently not insured and we need to check whether the council have any insurance cover that may be of benefit to the society (we understand that the cowshed is not insured). It was suggested that the national allotment society scheme may be appropriate.

It was approved that we should put a disclaimer notice at the hub to state that say we accept no liability for loss or injury. The secretary will check with the Town Clerk (Will Austin) to ascertain if this is acceptable, and whether he can offer any advice. The meetings consensus was that insurance is unnecessary.

Suggestions for Hub activities:

- Plant stroke seed swaps
- Barbecue
- Coffee mornings
- Should we have grass and bee friendly wild flowers?
- installation of bug hotels which are useful for wild bees
- Volunteers will be required for the upkeep. Chris Miller lives close by to the hub and has very been very useful as a helper
- Chair suggested a site meeting for members to assess the hub and to generate ideas. Confirmed that we should have a site discussion/drop in coffee meeting 11 – 1pm on Saturday 2nd October to explore the future of the hub and its future uses. “Come along with ideas and join us with a hot drink and a biscuit”. We should email all members with this invitation regarding the planned mini orchard
- Colin Sparkes suggested that we should have a bench; Fiona says that she has six plastic chairs and some paving slabs that she would be pleased to donate. Barry also has some 2’ x 2’ paving slabs that could be utilized and it is thought that out of this we could construct a 4’ by 8’ patio post dot

9. Tree planting

- At present we have half of plot 40 which was relinquished by Chris. Colin commented that the site is on flood plain which might present a problem when planting trees.
- It was suggested that we ask for donations; Alex Gurini may have an apple and a cherry tree that could be suitable. Mandy suggests a nut tree such as a cobnut. Chair would like to donate a Victoria plum tree.
- All planted trees must be on dwarf rootstocks such as M26.
- The chair suggested that October is good for tree planting and has a friend who might donate a black Mulberry - which could be okay as long as it was kept small enough; they are very large trees. Mandy said that she has a small pruned mulberry on her plot.

Any other business.

- Barry outlined 2 complaints regarding unlocked gates at the Flaxhayes site. New allotment holders there may not know that there is another entrance as well as the main gate. This small gate lock did fail - and the lock was changed by the council on the same the same day! The Secretary will email members regarding the locking of gates - but not just to Flaxhayes tenants as we do not have records concerning where tenants' allotments are.
- Secretary stated that when complaining to Bridport Town Council it is beneficial that BADAS is also informed as we can let other members know of problems, if appropriate.
- Colin Sparkes stated that he will be relinquishing his allotment shortly and has notified BTC.
- The National Allotment Society are recruiting are representatives – Daryl is asking for a representative for West Dorset.

Meeting closed 8.25pm