

Bridport and District Allotments Society Meeting

Annual General Meeting held at Mountfield on 2nd September 2010

Members Present:

Colin Sparkes (Chair), Bob Driscoll, Mandy Rathbone, Alexandra Gurini, Brian Atkinson, Lynne Atkinson, Barry Thomas, Richard Edwards (minutes), Roger Pollock, Ralph Probert, David Wrigton, Peter Dutton, Jim Harding, Eve Hobson, Tomasz Hobot, Barbara Hobot, John Keens, Mary Keens, Robin Wilkinson, Ron Grimwood, Carolyn Brightwater, Sheila Hawkins.

1. Apologies from: Charles Wild, Mark Budden, Louise Matthews, Margaret Tebbs, David Barnikel, Jill Lloyd, Penny Bigg, Anna Sullock, Christine Bell, Gavin Maxwell, Dorothy Maxwell.

2. Chairman's Report:

Colin Sparkes reported on some successful gardening despite the prolonged dry weather this Summer. The Society has continued with its regular member, committee and envelope-stuffing meetings. Please email Bob Driscoll on [REDACTED] if you are happy to receive newsletters, minutes and notices of forthcoming meetings by email, since this would save work for the committee.

Bridport Town Council have 87 people on the waiting list – 47 in the parish and 33 outside. Seven were offered plots but not accepted so have gone to the bottom of the list. It is expected that the new site at Allington will be ready in the Spring now that an agreement has been made with the Environment Agency. There will be some plots at the new development at Priory Lane, and also at Rivervale once that development is completed in 2011 at the earliest. Burton Bradstock members reported that the National Trust may offer some land for allotments at Burton.

The Town Council rotovating service has been taken up by several plot holders during the year. The Council has also promised to renew the plot number markers at all sites.

The Society did not attend this year's Food Festival owing to a lack of helpers, but the Town Council kindly distributed our publicity there and at the Melplash Show. Thanks also go to the Town Council for the use of Mountfield as the new meeting room.

Contributions to the newsletter would be very gratefully received by Charles Wild who has again done an excellent job. Thanks also go to the Secretary and Treasurer for their work this year.

3. Treasurers' Report:

Membership is now at 177. Well over half the Town Council plot holders are members. (Some members are not plot holders, and some are in the surrounding district, including Beaminster and Broadwindsor). Income has increased because we put up the subs and we haven't had to pay for a meeting room. So the bank balance is a healthy £600. It was suggested that this money could be used to offer part-payment for the notice board at Flaxhayes.

4. Election of Officers

Chair: *Colin Sparkes*, nominated by Bob Driscoll, seconded by Ralph Probert.

Treasurer and Membership Secretary: *Mandy Rathbone*, nominated by Lynne Atkinson, seconded by Mary Keens.

Secretary: *Bob Driscoll*, nominated by Colin Sparkes seconded by Roger Pollock.

Minutes Secretary: *Richard Edwards*, nominated by Bob Driscoll, seconded by Tomasz Hobot.

Newsletter: *Charles Wild* nominated by Robin Wilkinson, seconded by John Keens.

5. Nominations for the Society's Committee

They are: *Ralph Probert*, *Roger Pollock*, *Lynne Atkinson* and *Mark Budden*, and from Burton Bradstock, *Margaret Tebbs* and *David Barnikel*, nominated in their absence. They were nominated by Bob Driscoll, seconded by Colin Sparkes and voted in en masse.

6. Annual Subscriptions

It was agreed to keep the subs at £2.00.

7. AOB

Lynne asked for an update on the water situation at Skilling. Colin to chase this up.

A question was asked about the gaps in the hedges at Priory Lane. It was thought that these are for laying a pipe to the sewer from the new development. It is thought that Daryl is well aware of the gaps and that they will be re-instated but Colin will check on that with Daryl. Colin stated that the entrance to the new Allington and Priory Lane allotments was to be from within the new development but didn't know if there was any thought given to car parking.

This concluded the AGM, which was followed by the Quarterly Meeting