

Bridport and District Allotments Society
AGM 19th September 2013 at Mountfield, Rax Lane, Bridport

Meeting commenced: 7pm.

Apologies for absence: David Rapson, Roger Pollock, and Eve Hobson.

Matters arising from the last meeting: BTC would like us to maintain the hedges and gateways, Chairman to investigate why the hedge near the bowling green had not been cut.

Chairman's Report for Year Ending 31st August 2013:

Welcome to you all.

What a difficult 12 months! In July 2012 we had 193 mm of rain, In August alone 98mm - and this year 52mm in July and 26mm in August. Very wet last year and very dry this; but even so the crops still grow - at least some. Brussels' Sprouts last year were good, but not so good this year - British weather!

Some trees appear to be losing their leaves already, but the experts say it is not an early autumn, but a shortage of water during the summer.

We have all noticed the lack of insects this year, not only the bees - but who has had to wash their car windscreen to get rid of the splattered flies and moths? Hopefully the allotmenters are doing their best. The Community Allotments have a hive and so has Skilling; both seem to be flourishing: it is a step in the right direction. The exception this year is, it seems, the Cabbage White butterflies - they are everywhere!

There have been 3 general meetings and one site visit to Burton Bradstock. We have had a committee meeting mainly to organise this AGM

Two speakers this year were Bob Symes on veg. and Joy Michaud on "Cut and Grow Again." We have hopefully got a speaker for the Christmas meeting on December 12th, when there will be drinks and nibbles.

Membership is reasonably static as Mandy will explain. The number of plots has not increased from 172 last year - plus of course, Burton Bradstock and Palmers making a total of some 220. As an aside, the waiting list for 2008 is almost the same as now - 25 in the town and 32 outside - but we have many more plots now.

The officers are willing to continue if you wish, but with the loss of Ralf Probert and Richard Edwards we have 2 vacancies as well; we could do with new blood on the

committee. By the way Richard was Minute sec, so we want a volunteer to take notes and minutes at the 4 general meetings and a committee meeting each year.

Looking forward - if Vearse Farm development goes forward, with some 70 houses each year, to a total of 700; there will be a need for some 15 to 20 new plots for the increase, eventually, of a population of say, 1500.

Previously we have had a Quarterly meeting following on from this AGM, but as we cover the same ground, I feel it should all be one meeting, it stops duplication of items, hope you agree.

Colin Sparkes (chairman) 15/9/13

Membership & Treasurer's Report to AGM 2013:

The number of members has decreased slightly on last year - 192 in total.

The major change this year was the decision to invite speakers to come to at least 2 of our quarterly meetings, and to provide some refreshments and a raffle at these meetings, in order to encourage more members to attend. The accounts reflect the additional expenses that were incurred, and this is the reason for the overall slight reduction in the society's funds at the end of the year. However there is still a balance of £765.02, so no need for concern!

A note on the increased stationery cost - £36 of this was for the purchase of a rubber stamp, enabling the membership secretary to stamp the envelopes containing new BADAS cards "BADAS Membership Card enclosed". This was purchased as a result of quite a high percentage of members contacting us to say they had not had their cards in the previous year, when in fact it was more likely that they had perhaps overlooked them, as they get sent out in the Christmas period. I can report that this year I have had very few requests for replacement cards.

Success!

Mandy Rathbone
Membership Secretary and Treasurer
1st September 2013

BRIDPORT and DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS SOCIETY

Annual Statement 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013

	2013	2012
Income		
Subscriptions current year		
Direct paid to BADAS	52.00	84.00
Burton Bradstock	54.00	52.00
Paid via Bridport Town Council	276.00	290.00
	382.00	426.00
Income from Courses	12.00	
Total Income	382.00	438.00
Expenditure		
Stationery	66.20	29.28
Stamps	58.80	74.89
Photocopying	157.56	157.72
Refreshments for meetings	31.65	18.97
Course Expenses	37.19	
Speakers Fees & Raffle Prizes	110.00	
Total Expenditure	424.21	318.05
Surplus/Deficit	-42.21	119.95
Balances		
Cash at bank 31 August	752.02	758.30
Petty cash	13.00	48.93
	765.02	807.23
Increase/decrease in funds	-42.21	119.95
Number of members		
Paid up	191	214
Member paid in advance for 2012		
Local Food Links – free membership	1	1

Mandy Rathbone/Honorary Treasurer & Membership Secretary
1 September 2013

Election of officers, those elected were:

Chairman	Colin Sparkes
Membership/treasurer	Mandy Rathbone
Correspondence Secretary	Lynne Atkinson.
Minutes Secretary	Vacant.
Committee member	Mary Keens Deputy-Minutes taker.
Committee member	Roger Pollock
Committee Member	Fran Salix Alba
Committee Member	Vacant.

Sadly Ralph Probert has passed away, leaving a committee vacancy.

As an emergency measure Brian Atkinson agreed to stand in as the minute taker until the vacancy was filled.

Membership fees: to remain at £2.00

AOB: It was recommended by the committee to give a one off donation of £50.00 to help with the initial cost of setting up Bee Hives, (once they have been established) there were no objections and this was agreed, thus Richard Larcombe and Jim Binning - bee keepers will each receive a cheque for £50.00.

Some plots were extremely untidy - Daryl Chambers will be inspecting all allotments.

Town council have not cut the grass in the orchard allotments - Jill Lloyd will investigate.

19th October 2013 is apple day at the orchard all welcome.

It is the Allington Hill autumn festival 12th October 2013 4pm to 9pm.

Meeting closed 8.pm