

WEAR SIDE-SMALLHOLDERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD 20th JUNE 2019, MILL VIEW CLUB, FUWELL

Committee and Officials present: Mr. K. Turnbull; Mr I. Hornsey; Mr C. Howe; Mr J. Searle; Mr J. Smurthwaite; Ms. G Clifford; Mr. J. Gillies; Mr D. Charlton

Apologies: Mr. J. Riddle

Meeting attended by 44 members

AGENDA ITEMS

1. PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were circulated and read by the meeting; proposed and passed as a true record. No questions raised.

2. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE/OFFICIALS, COMMITTEE PROPOSALS OF WORK

2.1 EXISTING MEMBERS RE-ELECTED

Three members have stood down during the year. No nominations had been received prior to the meeting; none were received from the meeting.

The remaining Committee members were re-elected by show-of-hands.

D. Charlton G. Clifford J. Gillies C. Howe J. Riddle J. Smurthwaite J. Searle
K. Turnbull

2.2 ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

The meeting elected, by show-or-hands:

Chairman Mr K. Turnbull **Secretary** Mr I Hornsey **Treasurer** Mr J. Gillies

Rent Collector Mr I Hornsey

3. FINANCE/TRASEURER'S REPORT

The financial report was circulated and read, scrutiny and questions invited; proposed and passed as an acceptable and true account.

Chairman
Mr Ken Turnbull

Secretary
Mr Ian Hornsey

Treasurer
Mr Jim Gillies

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Agreement to dis-apply the need for a full financial Audit, by show-or-hands.

Mr. T. Crombie approved to continue preparing the financial statements, by show-of-hands.

No questions raised.

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

5. **BUSINESS**

5.1 **Rent increase**

This is being challenged by the Committee on the basis of the terms of the Tenancy agreement.

At this point the rent that will be collected is the amount the Council has specified (plus water rates). It is hoped that if the challenge is successful, any overpayment will be re-imbursed.

Cheques should be made payable to Wearside Smallholders & Allotments

5.2 **Verges**

This was formally done by the Council but the Tenant's agreement places the responsibility for verge management on the plot-holder. A one-off verge spray will be arranged by the Committee, after which all plot-holders should manage any and all verges adjacent to their garden.

5.3 **Traffic**

There have been various complaints this year about traffic.

Please apply common sense, apply the highway code and simply courtesies.

Use passing spaces; give way to traffic passing up-hill; do not block roads with parking (or at least be willing and immediately able to move your vehicle when asked) etc.

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5.4 Gates

These must be shut upon entrance and exit. (But they do not need to be locked except at advertised times and by the Committee)

The Tenant's agreement requires that gates are shut, but it is also important given the recent fly tipping incidents and a local person who is harassing plot-holders about burning.

Given the amount that the society has spent on perimeter fencing to keep us all safe, it is also pointless to 'build a fortress and leave the draw-bridge open'.

Despite the inconvenience, please protect everybody and the site by closing the gates.

5.5 Fires

Local complaints have reduced but we should all take care to follow basic guidelines about bonfires.

They should be used only when necessary; burn only dry material (and certainly no plastics, paints etc.); they should observe the wind direction (away from the houses nearby). Don't burn in wet, damp or foggy weather as the smoke lingers in the air and doesn't disperse. Please use common sense. The best advice is available from the environmental agency at their website.

5.6 Trees

Overhanging trees have been raised with the Council and we are advised that this is in the queue. The Committee is checking about the status of trees along the Cut Throat Dene.

5.7 Information

Please continue to check noticeboards, website and facebook for any new information and minutes of meetings (minutes not available on facebook).

6 MEETING CLOSED

Mr I. Hornsey closed the meeting and thanks members for attending.