

# WEAR SIDE-SMALLHOLDERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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HELD 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024, MILL VIEW CLUB, FULWELL

**Committee and Officials present:** Mr I. Hornsey; Mr. P. Hutchinson; Mrs J. Palmer;  
Mr J. Smurthwaite; Mr J. Hornsey; Mr P. Larcombe

**Apologies:** Ms G. Clifford

Meeting attended by 34 members

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Previous AGM were circulated and read by the meeting; proposed and passed as a true record.

*Question raised:*

### 2. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE/OFFICIALS

Existing Committee members willing to continue.

One new member proposed: Mrs L. Smith.

#### 2.1 ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

**Chairman** Mr P. Hutchinson; **Secretary** Mr I. Hornsey **Treasurer** Ms. J. Palmer

**Rent Collector** Mr S. Palmer

The meeting elected the above by show-of-hands.

#### 2.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED

Committee members were elected by show-of-hands.

Mr P. Larcombe; Mr. J. Smurthwaite; Mr. J. Hornsey; Ms. G. Clifford; Mrs L. Smith

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## 3. FINANCE/TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial reports for 2021/2022 were circulated and read; scrutiny and questions invited. Proposed and passed as an acceptable and true account by show-of-hands.

**Question raised:** Regarding period covered by rent. Confirmed that rent includes Council rent and water rates, both paid in arrears.

**Question raised:** Possibility of paying electronically. Explained that the Council wishes the physical collection and receipt system to continue, and the face-to-face payment method also facilitates Committee business beyond collecting rent.

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

## 5. BUSINESS

### 5.1 Rent

Rent was set at £63 (including water rates).

Collection notification will be posted as usual.

Any cheques should be made payable to Wearside Smallholders & Allotments.

### 5.2 Bank Account

The old account has been closed, and an account is now open with Lloyd's Bank.

**Question raised:** Clarification of collected rent money handling. Confirmed once bank situation returns to normal, the rent collector will pay monies into the bank directly reducing cash handling and possible errors.

**Question raised:** Payment for rent collecting. Confirmed that this is still in place should an incumbent wish to accept it.

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## 5.3 Planned Work

Suggested site work for the coming year was outlined, discussed and agreed, including:

- Remedial or replacement work to the car park at the site entrance. Only one estimate had been received to date; the Council's building team had been contacted and had submitted two quotations for various grades of work. Committee to pursue contract and completion.
- Work on the main interior car park, to clear it of dumped garden waste, and to fence the rear to prevent further dumping. No-one has submitted a quotation; Committee to consider hiring equipment and completing the job in-house.
- Re-chipping verges. These will be delivered after Council has sprayed verges. Everyone is responsible for maintaining their own verge (adjacent to any part of their plot) once spraying has been completed.
- CCTV will be installed to monitor main gate area particularly for fly tipping.
- Rubbish removal. Committee to arrange 1/month collection for rubbish removal. Proposed and agreed to use Mr. I. Hornsey; reimbursement at the Council tipping fee plus £20/trip.

## 5.4 Updates

Overhanging trees from The Square. The Resident Management Committee does not want allotment holders to cut overhanging branches from the Square.

Closing gates has improved and is a good measure to combat fly-tipping. There is however, continued fly-tipping, including by some people who are plot-holders, and this should cease. The new arrangement for rubbish removal should help.

Locks on the main gates are in the process of being replaced.

## 6. MEETING CLOSED

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

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Chairman  
Mr Paul Hutchinson

Secretary  
Mr Ian Hornsey

Treasurer  
Mrs Jean Palmer