

Craven Vale and Whitehawk Hill Allotments Society Meeting – Sunday 2 October 2022, CVWHAS Hub

Present:

Jenny Embleton – 118 CV – Treasurer and Chairing
Arthur Tallon – 77/1 WH
Mary Ledgard – 26 CV
Nick Fry – 64 CV
Roger Dean – 55 CV
Paul Skelly – 37 CV
James Gilderoy – 37 CV – note taker
Patricia Matejova – 40/2 CV – non-committee

Apologies:

Jane Griffin – 47 WH

Minutes of the last meeting on 5 June 2022

The minutes were taken as read.

Matters Arising

- Improving side shelter – plan of action agreed to undertake groundwork in last weekend of Oct or first weekend of Nov. **Action:** James to provide Jenny with details of materials and Jenny to order them. Jenny to contact members to ask for volunteers and confirm date.
- Naming/numbering of gates to improve wayfinding – further discussion of numbers/names of the gates and question as to whether BHCC already used numbers/names for them. If so, we would use the BHCC system for the proposed signage to avoid confusion. **Action:** Nick to ask BHCC allotment team if they already have numbers/names for the gates.
- Water storage at Hub – decided not to pursue this as no cultivation currently taking place beside the Hub.
- Open day – to be discussed at next meeting for an open day in the spring. Due to insurance restrictions this could only be open to ploholders and co-workers.
- Start gazing event – on-going interest in this, noting limitations of weather and dates when there would be something of interest to view. A risk assessment would also be required for trip hazards etc during a night-time event. **Action:** Mary to contact astronomy club.

Site Reps' Report

- 4 plots let on CV in August, next letting session on 15 October.
- Currently 3 lettable plots on CV and 4 on WH.
- 2 empty CV plots are too overgrown to be let and the council will clear them at some point.
- 1 CV plot will become available after 28 days (ploholder has moved to another plot).
- Some confusion over two CV plots has now been resolved.

- Waiting list: 50 CV, 200 WH.
- Shortage of keys an on-going problem.
- Peter has been repairing leaking taps.
- Reminder needed for plotholders to number their plots. **Action:** Nick to ask BHCC allotment team to send round-robin email [this has been done].
- BHAF has proposed a more streamlined system for plot letting but BHCC has not yet acted on this.
- BHCC allotment team now has a new and very engaged team member (Jim Mayor). A site rep forum is planned and possibly training for site reps.
- BHAF has been reviewing its governance and purpose and has created new committee roles to help spread the workload.

CVWHAS

- 49 members, highest ever.
- A 1st aid kit had been purchased for the Hub and covers to protect the benches.
- £1403.49 in the bank, including funds for projects.
- £247 sales this year.
- Agreed to consider additional products like seeds, blood, fish and bone etc
Action: Jenny to discuss with Amos at Roedale allotments.
- Agreed to acquire an airtight container for holding spare seeds for members to donate/acquire and silicon packs to keep dry. **Action:** Jenny to purchase.
- Suggestion to put price list on boards and at Hub. **Action:** Jenny to prepare list.

Any other business

- The committee felt a map of the two sites would be helpful. A basic one is available for plot letting, which could be used to develop a better version.
Action: Nick to provide plot letting map.
- New plotholder, Nigel Spencer (35 CV), is keen to be involved in the Committee.
- Roger commended the success of the Apple Day.
- Site reps had inspected plots for weeds, large trees and dangerous structures on 30 March and submitted their report to BHCC but it was unclear whether the BHCC allotment team had issued any notices or taken any follow-up action.
Action: Nick would ask the BHCC allotment team what follow-up action is taken after a notice has been made.
- It was understood that BHCC were recruiting more maintenance people. It was noted that the temporary repair to the Beresford Road gates needed a permanent solution.
- There was no further news on plans to update the water supply infrastructure at CV.

Next meeting: 4 December 12:00. Action: Mary to ask BELTA if we can use their meeting room.