

Romsey Town Council Allotments

Annual General Meeting 2022

Minutes of the 43rd **Annual General Meeting** of the **Romsey Town Council Allotments** held on the 6th **October 2022** at **Romsey Town Hall**.

The meeting was attended by 29 tenants.

The Chairman, Mr John Waterman opened the proceedings by giving a warm welcome to all those who had come along.

1. **Apologies** – Mr Nobbs (plot 42), Mr Staples (plot 58), Mr Prescott (plot 104) and Cllr. Cairney.

2. **Minutes of the 2021 AGM.** – The Minutes of the AGM, email to all tenants were accepted as read and confirmed. There were no matters arising.

Acceptance of Minutes:	Proposed by:	Mr A Rose	(plot 18)
	Seconded by:	Mr J Waterman	(plot 12)

3. **Chairman's Report.** – The Report distributed to all tenants via email prior to the meeting, was accepted as read.

He then gave a summary of the report. He reflected on the very dry season we have had to endured at the allotments. However, having the availability of water from our water-troughs was a great help with the 'hose pipe ban' in force. He cautioned care when entering and leaving the allotment site now that the new cycle path, running across our entrance, is constructed. Tenants were asked to respect the 5mph speed limit on the allotment road. He thanked all plot holders for respecting the request of banning the use of bonfires on site while the risk of fires was prevalent.

He concluded by informing the meeting, as noted in his report, that he was standing down as Chairman of the Allotment Management Committee. He is prepared to remain, if elected, on the committee and assist where needed.

Acceptance of the report:	Proposed by:	Ms K Hegedus	(plot 77)
	Seconded by:	Mr B Smith	(plot 46)

4. **Statement of Accounts.** Mrs A Helm submitted the accounts for the period 05/04/22 to 06/10/22, to the meeting. See report attached.

She explained that the 'allotment account' comes under the umbrella of the Town Council account and these are managed by an outsourced Accountant Firm, and that the accounts are audited in April, the end of the financial year for Romsey Town Council. The accounts offered here are as they stand from then to today's date. She went on to say that the introduction of the new payment system seems to be working well and she would like to thank the Town Council Chief Officer and her staff for their assistance in getting it up and running. She then informed the meeting that she was giving up her allotment at the end of this season and would therefore be standing down from the committee.

The Chairman then thanked Anne for her time spent on the committee and for her efforts in developing the new payment system.

Adoption of Accounts: Proposed by: Mr M Edgerley (plot 93)
Seconded by: Mr B Smith (plot 37)

5. **Election of Committee.** At this point in the proceedings the secretary explained to the meeting the situation arising from only having five present members willing to stand again. Therefore, we are looking for at least three new nominees to take their place or the committee will have to fold owing to an insufficient number to form a quorum. From the floor three tenants offered their services. Mr Mullinger (plot 5), Mr Davies (plot 55) and Mrs Fallowfield (plot 15).

All nominees: Proposed by: Mr K House (plot 35)
Seconded by: Mr. J Vamplew (Plot 110)

On a unanimous vote,

Committee members duly elected for the season 2022-2023

Mr R House	Plot 28	Ms C Kingstone	Plot 67
Mr J Waterman	Plot 12	Mr M Nobbs	Plot 42
Mrs L Fallowfield	Plot 15	Mrs E Vamplew	Plot 110
Mr E Mullinger	Plot 5	Mr C Davies	Plot 55

6. **Council Representatives Observations.** None.

7. **Proposed New Rule 6A.** Rule 6A. – 'Allotment Plot Constructions & Fencing'.

For the erecting of a Shed, Greenhouse, Polytunnel, Permanent Veg/Fruit Cage or Fencing around the plot, an application must be made in writing to the Committee prior to installation. The committee will advise on the permitted size of the construction that can be installed, location on plot, acceptable materials and how to secure the construction to the ground.

(i) The construction must not obstruct allotment pathways or cause hindrance to adjacent plots holders.

(ii) The tenant must keep and maintain the construction to a safe standard.

(iii) In the event that the rule is not adhered to, the Council reserve the Right to have the construction removed.

Reference Rule 10: **Power to Inspect Allotment Gardens.** Any previous construction prior to the above date will be subject to items (i),(ii),&(iii) of this rule.

Discussion followed with comments and suggestions from the floor. It was agreed that a further clause be added to the rule that:- "When vacating an allotment plot the tenant is responsible for clearing the site of said constructions unless donating it to the next tenant". This was agreed unanimously by a show of hands.

The Formal Meeting closed at 8.20pm.

8. **Open Session.** Mr Edgerley proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring treasurer, Anne Helm, to John Waterman (standing down as Chairman) and Roger House (standing down as

Secretary) for the past work they have done over many years on the committee. Mrs Vamplew read out to the meeting an email she had received from Mr Prescott (plot 104) requesting the siting of a 'beehive' at the allotment site. Discussion followed with many points of view. However, on conclusion it was agreed that the allotment site was not a suitable location with insufficient space to avoid disturbance of the hive by allotment tenants and surrounded by a train line on one side and a major road (A27) on the other side. The secretary then gave out the results of the 'Best Kept Allotment' competition from the allotment plot assessments carried out over the past season. 1st place and the Trophy goes to Mr Dalton (Plot 31). 2nd place to Mrs Cooper (Plot 33) and the Best New Tenant over the season goes to Ms Hawkins (Plot 81). Congratulations to all three during this very dry season.

With no further questions the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Roger House
Secretary

Confirmed.....Date.06/10/2022