**Tring Allotment Association**

**AGM**

**Wednesday 19th October**

**7.30 – 9.00 - Nora Grace Memorial Hall**

**Tring**

1. **Chairman’s Welcome:**

*Ian welcomed everyone at the 2016 AGM*

*A number of member had sent apologise which was noted*

1. **Notes of Last Meeting**

*Ian apologised that there were no recorded notes of the last meeting*

1. **Election of Chair –** Ian is prepared to remain
2. **Election Vice Chair –** Mary Lynn prepared to remain
3. **Treasurer –** Rob prepared to remain

*All existing committee members were prepared to stand and it was noted that some existing members had stood down; Ian would like to thank, Rupert, Jamie and Charlotte for their help and support over the last few years.*

*2 members expressed an interest in becoming committee members and I pleased to welcome both John Williams and Mike Minchinton onto the committee.*

*A vote was taken for the existing committee to remain which was unanimous*

1. **Treasures Report – to receive a report from Rob**

*Rob presented the Association accounts for the last year.*

*Most expenditure has been on manure, insurance and the purchase of a strimmer for association members to use.*

*It was noted that there was a slight discrepancy in the accounts due to subs and seed orders paid at the last meeting that had not been recorded correctly.*

*Rob highlighted expected expenditure for the following year,*

*A breakdown of the accounts is attached*

1. **Update on any Council Matters- Ian to update**

*The Council have quarterly Allotment and Environment Committee meetings held at the Offices, Ian explained that we have a representative that attends these meetings on behalf of the association to raise any issues.*

*A number of members had contacted the association regarding the renewal letter, regarding the comment about considerable investment in the allotment site:*

*Response for the Council below:*

* *Water Supply*

*• Removed compost from Plot 54 and tidied area*

*• Cleared area at the entrance to Duckmore Lane to improve visibility*

*• Removed fencing and overgrown hedging along fence line*

*• New hedging will be planted in the Autumn*

*• Cleared some redundant plots which have been re-let*

*• Will continue with plot clearance when renewals have been finalised*

*The full accounts will be published at the next meeting on 28 November.*

*Bonfires : I am pleased to report that the Council has not received any complaints regarding Bonfires.*

*We all should be aware of the rules so please keep to these so we can continue.*

 *I am intending to try and extend the period next year at the meeting in April but this will only be possible if no complaints have been made.*

*It was raised that the Wind Sock had not been erected as promised,*

***Post meeting Note : - The Wind Sock is now in place***

1. **Report on events and issues during current year –** Ian to update

*February the association attended the Eco fair, good footfall which allowed us to promote the association, we also picked up some new members.*

*Plant Sale: Held on 18 June. This was the most successful one ever held, which helped raise funds for the Association, so thank to all those that helped to support this.*

*Strimmer: The association has recently purchased a petrol strimmer for members to use on a no fee basis.*

*Autumn Show and Barbeque: Despite the weather this was well attended. We had a number of show classes and it was great to see that the children got involved.*

*Mary Lynn also persuaded a couple of RHS certified judges to come along and judge the show.*

*This was our first show and I was pleased at the number of members and some non-members who came along.*

*The association had at least 3 new members join on the day.*

*It was also good to promote the recent hard work that the Tring in Transition team have done with the community garden area as it was clear from the comments that a few members were unaware of this project.*

*I would like to add a special thanks to Councillor Wilkins who donated prizes for the vegetable class and gave out the prizes for all the classes.*

*I would also like to thank Councillor Hicks (Mayor) for attending in formal dress.*

*All in all, despite the weather I believe it was a successful event, which the association would like to promote and hold again next year.*

1. **Future Events –**

*Future events were discussed and the following have been agreed so please make a note in your diary’s as it would be great to see you all there,*

***Christmas Drinks*** *– 7th December – Kings Arms, further information to follow*

***Plant Sale –*** *3rd June 2017*

***Show and Barbeque 2017*** *– 19th August 2017 – It was agreed that the classes for the show will be circulated in April to give everyone time to prepare for the show.*

1. **AOB – Questions through chair**

*Show and barbeque It was discussed that we will need to look at the purchase of an additional gazebo, likely costs in the region of £180, all present agreed*

*An issue was raised over the existing gate and collapsible bollards on the site; due to lack of padlocks on the bollards and the damaged gates – possible traveler occupation – this will be raised with the Council.*

*Hedge cutting: This will be raised with the Council*

1. **Renew membership and Kings Seeds Orders**

*To date the Association has received 17 seed orders and 28 members have renewed their subs.*