**Scarcroft & District Allotment and Amateur Gardeners' Association**

**Notice of Annual General Meeting 2022**

**The Annual meeting of the Association will be held at 7:30pm on 16 June 2022, at the Hamilton Panthers Clubhouse, Knavesmire Road (near the junction with Tadcaster Road).**

**A picture of the Clubhouse (side view, taken from the cycle path across Little Knavesmire where it joins Knavesmire Road) is shown below. There is free parking on the road and limited parking on site**

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the AGM held 24th November 2021
4. Committee's / Chair's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Election of the committee
7. Replacement of Association shop – progress update and opportunity for discussion
8. Any other site-specific development suggestions
9. AOB



**Scarcroft & District Allotment and Amateur Gardeners' Association**
**Annual General Meeting 2021**

The Annual meeting of the Association was held at 7:30pm on Thursday 24th November 2021, via the online Zoom platform.

AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the AGM held on 26th November 2020 (see below)
4. Committee's / Chair's report
5. Treasurer's report
6. Election of the committee
7. AOB

MINUTES

1. Graham Sanderson welcomed everyone to the meeting, which was held a year after the delayed 2020 AGM. There were 17 people present.

2. Apologies were received from Simon Christian, Laura Potts, Gill Wignall, Norman Maitland, Chris Bush, Micky Richmond and Andrew Thompson.

3. The draft minutes of the 2020 AGM were reviewed. Matters arising:

a) Discussions about the hedges have followed, although not quite yet resolved.

The draft minutes were accepted (proposed Sara Robin, all in favour).

4. The report from the Chair / Committee had been circulated to all members in full in advance of the AGM, Graham Sanderson added the following points:

a) Christine Collier had stood down as Treasurer after the 2021 accounts had been completed; transition is ongoing to Mark Svenson in this interim period
b) Many thanks to Christine for her service as Treasurer
c) Chris Bush had decided not to stand again for election onto the Committee. Many thanks to Chris for his years of service as a committee member.

5. The Treasurer's report had been circulated to all members in advance of the meeting. Chrissy gave an overview:

a) Hut income decreased by 39%.
b) There was a 53% decrease in hut purchases for resale.
c) Total overheads decreased by 61%
d) Membership decreased by 24%.
e) Increase in Manure sales 70%.
f) The audited balance sheet (as circulated) remains consistent with previous years.
g) Net assets are just over £24K and currently banked with HSBC.

The Chair's and Treasurer's reports were passed unanimously.

6. Election of the committee.

Chris Bush had indicated that he did not wish to stand for re-election. Mark Svenson had expressed a willingness to be the new Treasurer, and therefore was standing for election.

No other new volunteers for the committee had come forward before the AGM or during it.

Graham suggested a block vote as the potential number of committee members who were standing for election was less than the maximum of 12; this suggested approach was proposed by Win Derbyshire, seconded by Tina Funnell, and unanimously agreed.

The committee was unanimously elected in block; the members for the forthcoming year are:

Adrian Clayton, Chrissy Collier, Win Derbyshire, Tina Funnell, Willy Hoedeman, Claire Pickard, Sara Robin, Graham Sanderson, Mark Svenson and Gill Wignall.

NB. Site secretaries are ex officio members of the committee, but Graham and Claire formally stood for election as they have had formal committee roles. The ex officio members are therefore Sarah Penn (Hospital Fields) and Katherine Lancey (Hob Moor).

7. AOB

a) Philip Bartle asked a question about whether it was possible to bring any pressure to bear upon the Council to maintain the main footpath through the Scarcroft site (it is muddy, slippery and losing its stone surface).
    a. It might be YACIO instead of the Council who are responsible for maintenance
    b. It might be possible to put road scrapings into holes
    c. There was a suggestion that ward committee funding might be available
    d. Graham will contact YACIO to raise this issue
b) Philip Bartle asked a question about the trimming of hedges which overhang the main footpath through the Scarcroft site, and asked for this also to be brought to YACIO's attention
    a. There was a separate comment that some paths within the Scarcroft allotment site area are also becoming inaccessible

b. There was a further separate comment that the path on the Scarcroft site at the back of Wentworth Road was not cut in 2021
c. The contractor which manages the grass and hedge cutting is changing in the New year
d. Individual tenants must also take some responsibility for hedges and saplings along their plot boundaries
e. It might be possible to tackle some hedges on the Scarcroft site care day in early 2022; the association will investigate whether a separate contractor can be available on site to shred material

c) Andrew Thompson asked why there was so much money in the accounts, and what it was earmarked for (if anything)?
    a. At some point we will need to replace the association shop; we keep repairing it but it is probably at least 40-60 years old and will not last forever
    b. We had done some research into this some years ago, including whether a replacement shop could be combined with a wider meeting place. This would require a lot of volunteers to staff the meeting place. It might be possible to explore partnering with other organisations if the will was there
    c. There was a suggestion to possibly explore partnering with other allotment associations (again that would require sufficient impetus within our own association)
    d. The current shop is on Stray land, which may have planning permission implications. That aspect is still with the Council's legal department (for some years now)
    e. We may have to further fundraise to have sufficient funds for a like-for-like replacement
    f. It might be useful to look into how the Glen Gardens site obtained a building from Portakabin for their association building
    g. The committee will shortly start discussions about a strategy for replacing the existing building with an improved building
    h. Anyone interested in helping out, perhaps on a specialist sub-committee, would be very welcome
    i. There was a follow-up question whether there was any scope for a bigger building? The current building is on an existing allotment plot with a small strip of land to its side, but no further expansion would be possible
d) There was a question about whether further manure could be obtained for the Scarcroft site. Sara will take this forward
e) Adult incontinence products (used) have been found across Low Moor, the Little Knavesmire, and the Scarcroft site since lockdown. The local councillor is aware, and the committee is investigating where reports of such findings should be made
f) Alison Reboul asked whether there had been a spate of shed break-ins across the sites. Some shed doors have been observed to be open, and there were a couple of incidents near Scarcroft Road, but otherwise the site secretaries are not aware of a wider problem. The

site secretaries ask everyone to report all incidents to the police, no matter how low level, so that a pattern of behaviour can be compiled and acted upon

g) Graham thanked Mark Svenson for agreeing to be Treasurer. Thanks were given to the committee from the members.