

MINUTES – Meopham and District Allotment Association (MDAA)	
Date	7 th May 2024 19:30 – 21:30
Venue	Small Committee Room, Meopham Village Hall
Attendees	Mark Hill, Rodney Buckland, Lindy Webster, Victoria Crone, Lizze Brooker, Dom Sullivan, Natalie Aldridge, Lukas Rains

Item No.		Action
1	Welcome and Apologies MH opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending our second committee meeting of 2024. A dictionary of Committee members' initials is provided as a footnote.	
2	Draft Minutes of 19th March 2024 meeting Noted: the AGM would be held in the Village Hall on Sunday 23rd June, starting at 4 pm. Noted: David Aspinall, although expected to attend the meeting, was recovering from a lengthy operation. Matters arising, not covered elsewhere None	
3	Chair's Report MH thanked everyone involved in bringing the 'Woo Woo' project to reality, including those who were offering to purchase various consumables and peripherals, and apply preservative/paint to the inside and outside of the cabin. MH noted outstanding projects: fencing between the allotment domain and the farmer's field, central roadway – possibly with a grant enabled by MPC, and a storage container.	RB
4	Secretary's Report RB noted that John Chalk (19B) has extensive maintenance experience and proposed that he be approached to take over at least some tasks carried out by Dave Brown.	RB

	RB proposed a deadline of 12th May for contributions to the newsletter. RB asked about who delivered wood chips from time to time. It was suggested that Julian Kent (15B, 15C) was likely to know the name of the supplier. RB reported that there had been no response from Dave Brown to an enquiry about 10 mph signs which he was asked to procure before resigning. RB summarised the chronology of the 'Tree Surgery Project': 29th June 2021 – first note in the Minutes that various plot holders would like tree surgery to be carried out. 28th June 2022 – Committee agreed that a Call for Proposals from plot holders for tree surgery would be issued. 18th July 2023 – Minutes noted that clearance of Dogwood (16C, 16D) was approved by the Committee. 19th March 2024 – MPC made a site visit and approved the Dogwood clearance and the removal of the Scots Pine (11C) as a first phase of work. 21st March 2024 – NPC Tree Surgery quote received for £1200 + VAT including chipping and root removal. RB reported that voting for the Dogwood and Scots Pine work to go ahead was as follows: Dogwood - 3 for, 4 against Scots Pine - 5 for, 3 against Reported: that plot holders adjacent to the Dogwood had expressed a desire for the work to be abandoned. See AOB. Agreed: that VC and LW would discuss the future of the Dogwood with adjacent plot holders.	All RB RB VC, LW
5	Lettings Manager's Report VC reported that there was only one applicant on the waiting list and that the two half plots had not been let. RB asked for an update to PlotMaster – to be used for emailing the newsletter.	VC

6	Treasurer's Report As DA was unable to attend the meeting, it was agreed that RB would make contact to check that the auditing process would be complete by the AGM on 23 rd June.	RB
7	Maintenance LW reported that when reading the water meter recently she noticed a "vibrating thingy" and wondered whether there might be a leak in pipework somewhere. RB confirmed that there was no unusual pattern in water use and that first-of-the-month meter readings would continue to be recorded and analysed for any signs of leakage.	RB
8	Health & Safety Nothing to report.	
9	AOB MH called for a vote on the proposed, previously agreed in Committee and approved by MPC, Dogwood work. The majority were in favour of abandoning the project. RB informed the meeting that NPC Tree Surgery had quoted £600 + VAT for taking down and chipping the Scots Pine. MH declared that this was not good value and proposed to fell the Scots Pine himself. MH closed the meeting at 21:30. Note: the date of the next meeting was not set, but in view of the AGM being held on Sunday 23 rd June, Tuesday 18 th June is proposed.	

Key:

NA Natalie Aldridge
DA David Aspinall
EB Lizze Brooker
RB Rodney Buckland
VC Victoria Crone

MH Mark Hill
LR Lukas Rains
DS Dom Sullivan
LW Lindy Webster