

MINUTES – Meopham and District Allotment Association (MDAA)	
Date	13 th June, 19:30 – 21:30
Venue	Small Committee Room, Meopham Village Hall
Attendees	Mark Hill, David Aspinall, Rodney Buckland, Dom Sullivan, Lindy Webster, Lizze Brooker, Victoria Crone

Item No.		Action
1	Welcome, Apologies and Chairman’s Report MH opened the meeting and expressed his delight at the installation of the Portaloo. A dictionary of Committee members’ initials is provided as a footnote.	
2	Draft Minutes of the 25th April 2023 meeting No corrections to the Minutes of the meeting were proposed. Matters arising: RB reported that he had not yet had a response from the Parish Clerk about a request for an update on development plans for Southdown Shaw.	RB
3	Secretary’s Report RB reported that Katie Roberts had offered manure in loads of 15 tonnes at £10.00 per tonne. Agreed: This highlighted the value of the Association’s agreement with Jamie and Maria Davis to provide regular supplies of free manure. RB reported that the “Punk Woven Tribes” What3Words locator for the Portaloo would have to be updated and the contractor advised. <i>(Note added after meeting: On Friday 16th June, a maintenance operative called RB from the postcode area he had been given – in Culverstone! - to find out where the Southdown Shaw site was. He was advised that no maintenance was needed this early as the Portaloo had only just been installed.</i>	RB, DA

	<i>Could DA contact the company to demand that the new What3Words locator -splash opens funds - along with details of where to find the gate key be given to <u>all</u> operatives likely to visit the site.)</i> RB confirmed that he would draft a newsletter for approval by MH with contributions from Dave Brown and Committee members. RB reported that a complaint had been received concerning a high fence erected on the boundary of 18A and the farmer's field. RB reported that a complaint had been received about the pathway between 11E and 10E. For this year, the plot holder of 10E had agreed to maintain the pathway. Once reminded by RB, 10E's plotholder quickly made the pathway usable again and gave notice that 11E should be declared vacant. The plot has not been worked since late last year. Agreed: Pathway condition would be formally assessed as part of this year's WeedWalk on 27th June. RB reported that Marta Barczynska had declined an offer of 3F but hopes to apply for a plot later this year. RB reported that Magdalena Pawlowska plans to import a tonne of compost for her plot but was having difficulty unloading it due to a "large tree" near her plot. Agreed: A target date of Saturday 27th July was set for the Association's AGM in the Village Hall.	DA RB RB VC VC, RB, LW VC RB RB
4	Treasurer's Report DA described his approach to preparing accounts for the auditor with particular reference to the large cash transactions arising from last year's new lettings activities.	
5	Lettings Manager's Report VC provided a comprehensive update on recent activity. Agreed: Since it was likely that there were some in our plot holder community who activated their plots after receiving WeedWalk notices but then left them to mother nature for another year, it would be informative to see if past records of WeedWalk letters could identify 'serial offenders'.	RB

	Agreed: the Committee encourages the letting of half-plots to some newcomers and others who have difficulty maintaining an entire plot.	VC
6	Health, Safety and Maintenance LW reported that Dave Brown had offered to install another six double taps at existing locations. Agreed. Noted: the convex traffic mirror outside the front gate was cracked. Agreed: A notice about use of weedkillers on plots would be included in the newsletter.	LW RB
7	Next meeting Agreed: If the AGM can be held at the Village Hall on 22nd July, the Committee will meet on Tuesday 18th July in the Small Committee Room, starting at 19:30.	

Key:

DA David Aspinall
RB Rodney Buckland
MH Mark Hill
VC Victoria Crone

LW Lindy Webster
EB Lizze Brooker
DS Dom Sullivan