

MINUTES – Meopham and District Allotment Association (MDAA)	
Date	27 th August 2024 19:30 – 21:30
Venue	Small Committee Room, Meopham Village Hall
Attendees	Mark Hill, Rodney Buckland, David Aspinall, Lindy Webster, Victoria Crone, Rita Cook, Dom Sullivan, Mitchell Whetstone.

Item No.		Action
1	Welcome and Apologies MH opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending our fourth full Committee meeting of 2024. Apologies were received from LB. A dictionary of Committee members' initials and names is provided as a footnote.	
2	Draft Minutes of 16th July 2024 meeting Approved. Matters arising, not covered elsewhere Ten trees have been marked as priorities for tree surgery. The main criterion for inclusion in the list was the effect of shading on plot productivity. A map of pathways that need attention has been generated by VC. This will be used in requests for relevant plot holders to improve access to pathways.	RB
3	Secretary's Report RB introduced the idea of a Bonfire around 5th November to allow plot holders to remove 'woody' rubbish from their plots. Agreed: MPC to be asked for permission and any advice, DA to check liability coverage with our Insurer, and the Fire Brigade to be consulted. RB noted that our new WhatsApp channel has become very active with ideas and some agreements for Open Day arrangements. RB noted that, according to one interpretation of planning rules, polytunnels, being temporary constructions, have to be removed	RB, DA

	at the end of the growing season but can be re-installed at the beginning of the next. Agreed: Committee should consider asking plot holders to remove polytunnel covers over winter. RB re-introduced the observation that 1 m³ water 'IBC' containers had recently been installed on several plots. The concept of a bank of 1 m³ containers being installed, with the aim of reducing our water bills, was briefly discussed. DS reported that 1 m³ containers cost £80 without a frame and can be adapted to include a large rainwater collecting area. An example can be found on YouTube. DA noted that ~425 m³ of water had been used over the last year. At £2.09 m⁻³, the annual cost of our water supply is ~£900. RB reported that a Local Support Officer had been re-introduced for the Meopham area. RB agreed to update the previously circulated draft Tenancy Agreement to take account of further items in the Agreement that was never given a 'Rev' No.	All RB
4	Lettings Manager Report VC reported noted that there was a steady flow of plots becoming vacant and new tenancy uptakes following the annual WeedWalk.	
5	AOB It was reported that a work gang with theodolites had been observed on site. Action: RB to ask Lisa, the Assistant Parish Clerk, whether permission had been given by MPC. A wide variety of ideas, proposals and promises about arrangements for our Social Day on Sunday 15th September were aired before the meeting closed soon after 21:30.	RB

Key-value pairs

DA David Aspinall
EB Lizze Brooker
RB Rodney Buckland
RC Rita Cook
VC Victoria Crone

MH Mark Hill
DS Dom Sullivan
LW Lindy Webster
MW Mitchell Whetstone