

Draft Minutes for the AGM of the Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations

23rd April 2013

Attending: Federation Committee; Wendy Skinner-Smith (Chair), Richard Barrett (Secretary), Jonathan Clark (Treasurer), Tim Treacher (Spragglesea Mead). Apologies for absence Juliet Blackburn (Upper Wolvercote).

Associations; Barns Court -. Bartholomew Road –Richard Barrett. Barton Fields – Caroline Duffy. Blackbird Leys – Roy Leach. Cowmead – Reg and Jayne Madden. Cripsey Meadow – Wendy Skinner Smith . Cutteslowe - Ian Sheppard. East Ward – Stewart Young. Elder Stubbs -. Fairacres Road – John Piggot, Jennie Rudman. Fairview - Terry Wood. Headington and District – John Lardner and Mervyn Hughes (Eden Drive), David Ruffles and Ron Smith (John Garne Way). Lenthall Road- Catherine Gibb. Links – Susan Lee and Rachael Coney. Lower Wolvercote – . Marston Ferry – . Minchery Farm – Clive Bevan. Osney St Thomas – . Ramsay Road -. Risinghurst – Jayne Wright. South Ward - David Allen. Spragglesea Mead - Michael Walker. St Clements and District – David Colbeck. Thompson Terrace –. Town Furze - Heather Armitage. Trap Grounds - Virginia Wallace. Upper Wolvercote -. Van Diemans Lane -. There were 21 associations represented.
Meeting started at 6PM

1/ Chair made her welcome speech reporting on the enlargement of land and facilities at Barton Fields Association. They hope to sign their revised lease shortly. The association has extended the allotment area available to use most of the original 4+ hectares land. She also reported that she and Reg Curnock had attended a meeting with OCC about the Minchery Farm East site where it was proposed some are of the land be retained as allotments. There is a further consultation display on 27th 28th April at Falcon Close and Littlemore where plans can be seen prior to planning permission being submitted.

2/ Apologies for absence; Marie Power, Colin Sharp, Phil Crème, Robert Twycross, Peter Goodgame and Peter Sims.

3/ Matters Arising. The Secretary had printed paper copies of last year's AGM for all attending as usual. Terry Wood asked for an **email version of the minutes to be available a month or so after the AGM**. Heather Armitage asked that the minutes be changed to state that at the time of the last AGM Town Furze had become a 'fully fledged' association. ODFAA information from OCC was contrary to this so the minute stands.

4/ Annual Report. The chair apologised for the error as some had received the 2012 Annual report. The 2013 version was made available at the meeting. Members were given time to read and there were no questions on the report. It would be emailed to all. Terry Wood asked about an item in the 2012 Annual report about trustees and when charges were applicable? The chair reported that Cripsey Meadow had a £750 charge when their association changed their lease. We were advised we needed to let OCC know when there

was a change of trustees and for this normal procedure there was no charge. There was also a question about the Draft Corporate Plan and a request **to circulate the letter submitted by ODFAA that was available at the meeting**. The Draft Corporate Plan was accepted by OCC in February.

5/ Accounts and Treasurers Report. The out-going Treasurer was keen to point out that with regards to the federation's insurance policy, claims made due to break-ins or vandalism were not valid as they were outside the parameters of the policy, which covered injury to a member of the public or someone working manually for the association as a volunteer. A paper copy of his report was available in the email package and at the meeting. The treasurer's report contained a breakdown of income and expenditure and had been independently inspected. There were no questions.

The report and accounts were accepted by the meeting and the chair thanked Jonathan Clark for his work as treasurer.

Terry Wood asked for the membership fee to be reduced. Jonathan Clark was keen to support this as he had proposed this to the committee in 2011. It was not then supported by the committee. As Terry had not submitted this as a proposal 7 days before the AGM it could not be formally voted on. Presently the federation's income was in healthy surplus. Richard Barrett, Rachel Coney and Tim Treacher argued against change as we had plans for further expenditure to benefit members. The secretary mooted an idea of celebrating the federation's centenary in 2019 and the chair suggested we hold some training evenings for committee members and some plot management discussion evenings for members now that we had funds available. Subscription fee for 2014 **would be an agenda item for a Federation session prior to the liaison meeting in September**.

6/ Election of officers and committee. The existing officers and committee were then dissolved and nominations were invited for all posts. **Wendy Skinner Smith was returned as chair, Ian Sheppard voted new vice-chair (proposed WSS and seconded by Peter Goodgame) Richard Barrett was returned as secretary. Caroline Duffy was voted new treasurer, (proposed WSS and seconded by Janette Washington) Tim Treacher and Juliet Blackburn were returned as committee members and John Lardner voted new committee member, (proposed WSS and seconded by Tim Treacher). The next committee meetings are Thursday 23rd April at 7.30 and Wednesday 21st August 2013 8-30 AM in the Town Hall.**

7/ AGM items. Tim Treacher explained that due to the late spring the competition committee wanted to postpone the entry deadline and the first round of judging the crops and allotments. This has since been finalised to be 15/16th July with the deadline for entries to be 3rd June. Terry Wood disputed that the competition budget had been agreed. Outgoing treasurer JC confirmed the budget was passed at the January meeting.

9/ AOB. None recorded, meeting closed at 6-55PM.