

# Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations

Founded 1919

*Centenary Year 2019*

working together for Oxford allotments

**Chair:** Wendy Skinner Smith wendy@wendyskinnersmith.co.uk – Cripsey Meadow AA

**Treasurer:** John Lardner johnlardner@hotmail.com – Eden Drive AA

**Minutes Secretary:** Nick Jackson najackson@btinternet.com – OSTNB AA

**Committee Members:** Phil Baker St Clements Pullens Lane AA, Roy Leach Blackbird Leys Kestrel Crescent AA

March 2020

Dear ODFAA members,

You are invited to join us for the Annual General Meeting of the Oxford and District Federation of Allotment Associations on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm in the Town Hall St Aldates, Oxford**. The meeting will receive reports and accounts from last year and elect the Officers and the Committee for 2020. **This will be followed at 7.15 by the Allotment Liaison Meeting**. The latter is a joint meeting managed by ODFAA and Oxford City Council officers.

We have received seconded nominations for the following officers: **Nick Jackson** (OSTNB AA) and **Phil Baker** (St Clements) as Co-Chairs, **John Lardner** (Eden Drive) as Treasurer, **Jenny Wright** (Barton Fields) Minutes Secretary **Roy Leach** (Blackbird Leys Kestrel Crescent AA), Association Disputes Resolution Secretary, **Jane Millar** (East Ward) Web Site administrator, **Leonard Bowara** (Court Place Farm) Committee member, **Julia Brockelsby** (Thomson Terrace) Committee member.

- Presently all Oxford allotments are ODFAA members. At the January ALM, the chair outlined how the future of ODFAA was dependent on more committee members to share ODFAA's work. This year's work had fallen on far too few shoulders! We have had 4 new nominations and we would still like to see a few more.
- There are 3 committee meetings a year with OCC Client Officers with further ODFAA committee time either after this meeting or separately, + at least 1 other ODFAA committee meeting, + 3 ALMs on Tuesday evenings.
- Committee members must attend the meetings and take on a responsibility. ODFAA committee work has proved a useful in learning more about managing allotments as well as influencing the future.
- If you wish to make a nomination, send in the nomination form included in John Lardner's package with your payment and subscription form. Nominations from paid up members can be made at the meeting.
- Only paid up members have voting rights at the AGM. Each association has one vote for its first 100 members or part thereof, plus another for each additional 100 members or part thereof.

ODFAA circulated a briefing on our Tenancy agreement negotiations in February. Committees were asked to discuss and return comments to John Lardner by March 3<sup>rd</sup>

**ODFAA members must complete the data check** to comply with ODFAA membership and benefit from grants. The annual report and accounts will be circulated by email prior to the meeting. Our renewal of the O&DFAA Zurich insurance requires you to update information from your site. As previously you must complete and **return the insurance forms and data checks to John Lardner before or at latest on April 7<sup>th</sup>** as we must have this time to process the paperwork before the renewal on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**The Agenda for the AGM and ALM will be circulated later with the Annual Report Annual Accounts and Treasurers Report.**

2019 was yet again an unusual year for growing with long periods of drought and rain. Allotments are clearly a low carbon plus, but we must all learn to adapt our gardening to accommodate the many signs of a Climate Emergency. The strap line for the ODFAA web site is '**working together for Oxford allotments**' and Oxford has a thriving allotment provision which is improving year on year thanks to the hard work of our c.150 committee volunteers and members. Working together we can ensure that the space available is well used so as many as possible can continue to enjoy a healthy and productive future. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Yours sincerely,

*Wendy Skinner Smith, John Lardner, Nick Jackson, Phil Baker, Roy Leach*  
*The 2019 Federation Committee*