

Pretoria Road Allotment Society

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 1st October 2022 at Pretoria Road Allotment Site

Committee Members Present:

Doug Blackwell – Secretary (DB)
Derek Howell – Treasurer (DH)
Mary Hayward – Minute Secretary (MH)
Norman Bradford (NB)
Jenny Richardson (JR)
Richard Pruett (RP)
Keith Meredith (KM)
Jake Gray (JG)
Jody Fayne (JF)

Apologies: Claire Nicholl, Mike Stinchcombe, Chris Rowell

1 Welcome

DH thanked all members for their attendance and extended a warm welcome to the new members of the committee.

DH advised that we have not had any new information about the Newnham Place Development.

DH advised that we have not received any news from the Council regarding the grant application.

DH stated that there is a Patchway Town Council (PTC) meeting on the 11th October and it has traditionally been the Chair and the Treasurer who have attended this meeting in the past. (This is when rent is paid to PTC.) DH to contact CR re availability for attendance at this meeting.

2 Keys

DB to contact former committee member regarding the return of keys.
A discussion was then had about the need for keys for new committee members.
It was agreed to get more sets cut.

3 Bonfire Evening

It was agreed that the bonfire evening would go ahead on Friday 4th November, starting at 6.30pm.

Volunteers were requested to support and help run this event and agreed as follows:

KM to check bonfire pile on Thursday 3rd for Wildlife
MH, JR to contact and notify Patchway Fire Station
DH to purchase burgers etc
NB Cooking first session, ? Cooking second session

MH, JR Teas, coffees etc and order taking
DB Soup preparation – MH to loan slow cooker
RP and KM stated that their partners have offered to help with event

4. **Orchard**

A provisional date to tidy and prune the orchard was set for Saturday 26th November. This will be confirmed with committee members via the WhatsApp Group.

5 **Woodchip**

It was agreed by all that it would be beneficial to all plot holders to obtain a supply of woodchips. KM offered to contact a tree surgeon who would be willing deliver spare supplies of woodchip at a time convenient to the society. KR would also check the quality of the woodchip before it is offloaded.

6 **A.O.B**

KM enquired about training for committee members in handling and hiring out equipment ie. rotavator, strimmer and mowers. It was agreed that a training session would be organised one Saturday, and committee members would be notified of the date via the WhatsApp group.