

## **Minutes OTHAS AGM 2017**

*Held at St Augustine Church (Thursday 28 September 2017)*

**Apologies** - Rashid, Jashia, Dee, Jane, Simon, Deirdre

**Minutes of AGM 2016** Agreed

**Matters Arising** - None

**Chair's Report** (see separate report)

**Treasurer's Report** (see separate report)

The report was accepted

### **Membership Report**

From 1 October 2016 – 30 September 2017, 7 plots have been let and 3 plot transfers took place. One plot has been split in half (plot 22).

The 4 starter plots that we have had ready in the 2015/16 season were finally made ready, one has been taken, the other three remain to be let. Two other plots remain vacant 58a and 59.

Current split is 42% Southwark / 57% Lewisham (target is 75% Southwark).

The waiting list remains closed for traditional plots for Lewisham residents (as they still face a 30 year wait), but is open for Southwark residents. The raised beds waiting lists are open for both boroughs. There are 126 people on the Southwark waiting list, 82 on the Lewisham waiting list, 5 on the Southwark raised bed waiting list and 2 on the Lewisham raised bed waiting list.

### **Elections**

Chair : Andy Bradshaw (nominated Jan; seconded Martin) Elected

Secretary : Jon Johnson (nominated Lenn; seconded Ian) Elected

Treasurer : Alice Baker (nominated Linda; seconded Jill) Elected

Membership : Carole Backler (nominated Fiona; seconded Maggie ) Elected

Work Days : Martin Smith (nominated Maggie; seconded James) Elected

Social: Simon Miles (nominated Carole; seconded James) Elected

Other: James Olver (nominated Carole; seconded Jill) Elected

Rashid (nominated James; seconded Jon) Elected

Auditors- Linda McLaughlin & Jane Wilson (Proposed Carole, seconded Martin) Elected

**Trustees** - Andy Bradshaw and Jon Johnson were confirmed as Trustees.

### **AOB**

Fruit trees will need planting in November

Agreed that strimmers and bush cutters will be issued only if training has been undertaken

### **Chairs Report to AGM**

May I start by thanking all your committee members for their contribution to the society this year: Jon, Alice, Simon, Carole, Martin and James do most of their work in the background, invisible to plotters, it is extremely time-consuming but they must love it as none has indicated a desire to step down from the Committee this year!

The Society has benefited from significant contributions from many other members this year: Ian for running the Wassail and Apple Pressing events William for renovating the pizza oven Rashid for getting a children's plot going Jill for all the chutney she has donated Mark for taking on the security brief wholeheartedly, now he has recovered

I hope everyone has had a productive year on their plots, despite the wet winter and cool wet weather in late spring.

It was great to open our gates for the midsummer Open Day and it has been fun to welcome back William Grealish, so he can resume the painting task he left off decades ago! We are also looking forward to the output to the very "probing" research undertaken into our compost loo.

However, I think we can all agree the site is not looking its best at the moment; it is essential we all do our 6 hours' work on the site (which does not include maintaining the paths alongside your plot). Just ask the Committee if you have time to do a job when there is not a work day. You can dig over the new plots just below the orchard, lay some steps, woodchip paths, weed the paving round the raised beds. Do it and tell us you have done so; you can use the record sheet on the notice board.

While I am in "haranguing mode", can I remind everyone that the bonfire area is not for composting, and certainly not for dumping anything from your home! Please only put there burnable materials like branches and timber.

We have continued to keep an eye on standards of plot cultivation. We will always be too harsh for some, too lenient for others; our aim is to follow due process, tempered with some discretion, in our efforts to keep plots cultivated. Some plotters have been told we will not accept their rent unless things improve in month or so.

Security-wise, we have not had the worst of years with regard to theft from plots, but we did suffer from a break-in in the green container. Please ask Mark Emptage or a Committee member (in complete confidence) if you need one of our cameras trained on your plot for a while.

In other news, the Council is planning major changes to the cemetery area. We have made representations as a statutory consultee; we do not expect the work to affect us adversely. One benefit will be an upgrade of the access road and car park.

We have been visited again by Knotweed Dave, and we are hoping one more spray will clear infestations by the churchyard and by the compost loo.

The website has been revamped this year, for which thanks are due to Jon. Any contributions you may have should be e-mailed to [info@onetreehill.org](mailto:info@onetreehill.org).

The lease negotiations grind on, we have now received draft documentation, which is being critiqued by a legal expert at the National Safety for Allotments and Leisure Gardening (NSALG).

And now before handing over to other committee members for their reports, can I just thank you again for coming and wish you all a happy and productive year on your plots.

**Treasurer's Report to AGM**

## Statement of Accounts for period 1st September 2015 to 31st August 2016

<b>Bank Balance (1st September 2015)</b>	£3776.48
<i>Plus income</i>	£2625.00
<i>Less expenditure</i>	£1892.59
Total	£4508.89
<b>Bank Balance (31st August 2015)</b>	£4634.33
<b>Income (1st September 2015 to 31st August 2016)</b>	£2625.00
<i>Plot Rents</i>	2615.00
<i>Associate Member rents</i>	10.00
<b>Expenditure (1st September 2015 to 31st August 2016)</b>	
<i>Site rent to Southwark Council</i>	838.44
<i>Affiliation Fee (NSALG)</i>	192.50
<i>Water Rates</i>	288.00
<i>Site Insurance</i>	68.50
<i>Strimmer Repair</i>	59.07
<i>Petrol and additives for strimmer</i>	38.08
<i>New helmet &amp; visor for strimmer</i>	24.99
<i>Wheelbarrows (2)</i>	79.98
<i>Wheelbarrow repairs</i>	56.00
<i>Gardening tools / saws</i>	77.03
<i>Padlock &amp; keys (green container)</i>	68.50
<i>Rubbish removal</i>	130.00
<i>Money taken for Petty cash</i>	40.00
<b>Committed Expenditure</b>	
Key deposits money held	190.00
<b>Monies available as of 31st August 2016</b>	<b>£4634.33</b>