

## BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT ALLOTMENTS CONFEDERATION

### MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022 AT BORDESLEY GREEN ALLOTMENTS

1] MEETING OPENED by Chairman at 19.00. C.Birch advised the executive of the sad passing away of Derek Cullen earlier that day. All members stood in respect for Derek and thoughts were with Chris and her family.

2] APOLOGIES – J.Brown and P.Clark.

3] MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – amendment made to treasurer’s report and minutes signed as a true record

4] MATTERS ARISING – none

5] CORRESPONDENCE – **Birmingham Food Strategy**, allotments not promoted at all. Secretary had completed survey highlighting allotments. Allotments must not be ignored. Public Zoom meeting to be held on 14<sup>th</sup> September.  
**Commonwealth Games** – 10 spades donated and were used for fund raising at show. **Pottery** – a request to collect any pottery dug up on allotments to be collected for display next year. Pollination event in Victoria Square, Birmingham. Information sent out. **Concessions** – Allotment Officer requested details of 2<sup>nd</sup> Year concessions for new tenants. **Water bills** – suggestion that monthly bills be sent – high postage cost and any queries would overlap bills. Possible to photograph meter readings if bills not receive. No action where bills have not been received.

#### 6] TREASURER’S REPORT

Balance @ 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2022	£20,027.74
Income	£ 00.00
Expenditure	£ 307.86
Balance @ 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept.2022	£19,963.88
Deposit Account	£10,689.88

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7a] SHOW REPORT– B.Smith stated “we did Derek proud”. Everyone knew what they needed to do thanks to D.Cullen’s organised planning. In spite of a less than normal growing season it was a great show. Novice class was well supported. C.Cullen ran tombola and C.Fenn collected surplus vegetables for a local food bank. Special thanks given to the Roots organisation for setting up the show. They also entered show, D.Cullen’s family came and helped.

P.Thomas gave the financial account for the show as follows: Income -£366.95, Expenditure - £1927.72, Operating loss £1577.00. Show balance £8,000. Tombola raised £106.

7b] COMPETITION – C.Birch is arranging engraving and delivery of trophies, certificates and moneys. Updated signature for show account needed, R.Long to be included.

8] LOCAL SITE ISSUES – [REDACTED] – problems with committee continues. B.Smith and J.Jupe to meet with committee to help resolve issues. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] – named contact agreed. Plot holder’s wife upset by someone trying to force way onto plot, door damaged. [REDACTED] – work on plot holder’s plot had been done. [REDACTED] – neighbour complained about overgrown border with ferns, new resident concerned about fence damage – B.Wilson advised park’s dept. – no action to date. [REDACTED] – allegations of harassment and bullying from site secretary, a petition has been raised. Matter is with allotment Officer. [REDACTED] – fallen tree branch to be dealt with. [REDACTED] – allocated funds not covering cost of maintenance. [REDACTED] – tenant received warning letter about water usage. He refutes allegation. L.Tubbs visited site. Tenant was bringing water onto site from home. Water from stand pipes restricted. Suggested that the warning notice should be rescinded. C.Birch will contact site secretary. [REDACTED] – complaint that committee not taking action against sprinklers being used. [REDACTED] – person sleeping on site tenant said he had been locked in, C.Birch to contact site chairman. [REDACTED] – secretary standing down. [REDACTED] – plot holder communicating with B.Wilson about eviction. [REDACTED] - plot holder was removing fence. Fire on site damaged fence. [REDACTED] – No response to water leak – reported to water plus. [REDACTED] – break in, 10 sheds broken into. Individuals needed to make reports to police.

9] ALLOTMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE – **Management Agreement** – C.Birch contacted Darren.Share and Ian Ward asking “don’t you care”. D.Share responded that he would respond within the week. **Florence Pickering Fund** – A.Downer [Landscape Officer] – he was arranging visits, blamed Commonwealth Games for delay! **Rents** – direct payments being refused, follow up to be made.

10] NSALG/AREA 5 – Area 5 meeting – M.Merrill reported that there were 3 in attendance, Meeting was a “disgrace”. One positive element was the superb presentation on Allotments History.

11] DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS – 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 7<sup>th</sup> November, 5<sup>th</sup> December and half yearly 19<sup>th</sup> November.

12] NOTIFIED BUSINESS - none

13] UNNOTIFIED BUSIENESS – Late rent penalty – the executive agreed that the £10 penalty should be removed this year due to current financial difficulties.

In memory of D.Cullen – in lieu of flowers donations could be made to John Taylor Hospice. M.Merrill asked to pass on executive’s condolences to Christine Cullen and family.

14] MEETING CLOSED – 20.40

**Ammendments:**

Total income was £356.95 not £366.95.

Operating loss was £1570.77 not £1577.00

Balance £7,836.05 not £8,000, when all cheques have been cashed and assuming no other expenses come along.

Also 7b ‘Updated signature for show account needed, R.Long to be included’ needs moving to 7a. and it should be set out as proposed and seconded etc because the minutes have to go with the mandate change to the bank.