Birmingham and District Allotments Confederation

Annual General Meeting

AGENDA

Saturday 17th May 2025

2 pm

Bordesley Green Allotments B9 5RD

1. **Apologies**

2. Ordinary Resolution for the **approval of AGM Minutes** of 23rd March 2024

3. **Reports:** 1. **Financial Report** from the Treasurer and Ordinary Resolution for the approval of BDAC Financial Statements 2024-2025
   2. **Report from the Secretary**
   3. **Report from the Chairperson**

BREAK for refreshments

4. Motions

Motion 1: to accept revised Objects and Powers of the BDAC

There are 10 objects listed in the old BDAC Constitution of 2014. We have now taken further legal advice which is to set out the Objects and Powers in our proposed Rules, in line with the Management Agreement of the BDAC with Birmingham City Council which we are still following. These are listed below in 1.1 and 1.2.

1.1 The Objects of the Society are to:

1.1.1 Present the views of those Allotments Associations and allotment tenants that it represents without hindrance on relevant allotment issues and to regularly advise the Council on matters that may arise

1.1.2 Facilitate and provide advice to Allotment Associations on the execution of their management responsibilities required under their agreement with Birmingham City Council

1.1.3 Coordinate representatives to provide support and guidance to Allotment Associations to enable them to undertake the functions and responsibilities required

1.1.4 Work with BCC officers to provide guidance and training in allotment management and committee procedures to the relevant officers of Allotment Associations through workshops, seminars or site visits

1.1.5 Provide Associations with advice on funding and assist Associations to gain grants for site improvements

1.1.6 Work with tenants on those sites not currently represented by Associations to form their own Association or to be administered by an existing Association.

1.1.7 By various means further the interests of Members and Affiliate Members with regard to the proper cultivation, good management and safe enjoyment of the allotments.

1.2 The Powers of the Society are to:

1.2.1 Take measures with BCC to protect Tenants, Associations and the sites against damage, trespass and theft.

1.2.2 To assess applications from Associations for major repairs and to make recommendations to the Council."

Motion 2: to accept revised membership and voting rules

Motion 2a: To change eligibility for Membership as follows:

"Membership of BDAC shall consist of Allotment Associations under Birmingham City Council"

(which was agreed at 2024 AGM) to:

"6.1 Membership shall be obligatory for the following:

6.1.1. Individual Tenants on BCC managed Allotment Sites
6.1.2. Allotment Associations under Management Agreement with Birmingham City Council"

Motion 2b To accept proposals for voting rights and how votes can be cast.

The old constitution (2014 with green cover) says

"17. At all General Meetings a vote will be held by each member of the Executive and BDAC members present at the meeting.

18. All voting will be one vote per BDAC member present. In the even of an equal vote, the Chairman will have a casting vote. There will be no proxy votes."

The proposed change (Clause 9 of proposed BDAC Rules) is that

"Every Individual Tenant Member admitted under Rule 6.1 shall hold one non-withdrawable share, which is not transferable. The share shall have the nominal value of £1.00 payable in full on joining the Society." And that "Each Individual Tenant Shareholding member shall be entitled to one vote at Society meetings. Proxy voting is not allowed. Votes can be cast in person, on-line or by post on official BDAC paperwork." (Clause 8.1 in Rules)

Motion 3: Revision to quorum and Changing constitution/Rules of BDAC

Motion 3a. **To accept the need for a Quorum for making decisions at Executive Committee meetings and General Meetings.**

There was nothing in the 2014 Constitution about a quorum for meetings where decisions are made (Executive or General meetings)

Proposed in new BDAC Rules:

"10.7 A quorum for the Executive Committee shall consist of 7 Committee Members including two of Chair, Secretary or Treasurer." AND:

11.5.1 "No business shall be transacted at any General Meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum at any General Meeting shall be 30 Members including two of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer being present.

Motion 3b. To accept proposed Rules for changing the Constitution

The old and current constitution (with green cover) says:

"Any alteration to these rules can only take place at an AGM provided that

i) Notice of any alteration of rules Is made in writing to the Secretary at least 21 days prior to the AGM
ii) A motion to amend or change any rules must be pass by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the voting members present at the AGM"

Proposed to amend this in Rules to:

"15.1 Changes to the rules of the Society (ie. new rules made, rules amended or rescinded) may only be made at a General Meeting and when a majority of voting Members who are present at the meeting approve the change." Adding Point in 8.1 "Votes can be cast in person, on-line or by post on official BDAC paperwork."

NOTE The full version of the proposed BDAC Rules were circulated with notification of AGM on 19th April.

5. **Elections for Executive Committee and Officers**

6. **Ordinary Resolution to approve the appointment of Auditors** for 2024/2025.

7. **Any Other Business**

Closure of Meeting

Thanks to our hosts at Bordesley Green