

Minutes of the Court Place Farm
Allotments Annual General Meeting for 1980
held in Montimer Hall Old Marston, on
Thursday December 4TH. The meeting
commenced at 7-40 p.m.

Number of people in attendance 13.

Apologies for absence Mr Loomes.

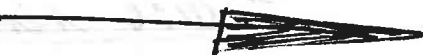
Chairmans opening remarks.

Mr Day
welcomed members, and stated how
disappointed he was on the poor turn
out.

Minutes of the 1979 A.G.M.

Mr Shubon read
from the minutes. Mr A Smith proposed
that this was a true record and this
was seconded by Mrs Faulkes and vote
Unanimous.

Secretarys Report: See facing page.

~~Butter~~ 

Dear Member,

Another year has passed on the Allotment scene bringing its usual crop of problems and troubles etc. It is a long time since the weather has been kind to us right thro' the growing season. This year started off with the usual cold N.E. winds and the ground remained cold causing a lot of seed problems and trouble for the Onion sets.

Then came eight weeks of draught followed by torrential rains which caused flooding on a lot of allotment sites. Surprisingly a lot of seed which we thought was lost then germinated. This caused problems where re-sowing had taken place. The very wet state of the ground produced a large amount of slugs which attacked the late potatoes and the humid conditions produced a fair attack of potato blight.

The winter greens have recovered well, but the white fly has survived after some very severe frosts.

The chief problem this year has been the rise in rents demanded by the Council.

The first amount required was £35 per acre which caused an uproar in the association and several meetings were held and articles written in the press.

The Oxford Allotment Federation then held several meetings with the Council and thrashed out a compromise of £15 per acre for two years and £25 per acre for remaining 5 years of the lease, but it was not easy. Quite a few associations have had to raise their rents considerably to cope with the rise.

At Marston we have had a record year on the sales side reaching £5,000 for the first time. Four years ago sales were less than £100 per year. Several Sundays this year £200 was taken in one morning. Due to bulk buying and bargain offers we are able to sell at well below shop prices and we give a lot of advice (good or bad) to gardeners.

All this turnover put a heavy load on the committee and some have given up a lot of their time to get goods weighed up and ready for the next weekend and we are very grateful to them. This has left us with little time to do repairs on the allotment, such as fencing etc.

Our main project has been the northern boundary hedge and ditch which had not been touched for 20 years. The hedge was cut back and the ditch dug out by tractor. Unfortunately the ditch was so deep that Mr. Arthur Smith had to build a new bridge to take the foot-path. The ^{tractor} work cost us £160 which left our repair funds a little low.

Next year we hope to carry on with the water supplies, improving the storage sheds and roads. The ballast has just arrived for the roadways and due to allottees cutting into the the road side we had major problems to get the lorries in.

I wish to thank the committee and some allottees for the help given to make this year so successful.

Unfortunately we lost Mr. Golder and Mr. Warland who passed away suddenly, also the wives of Ray Webb and Mr. Wheeler; we will miss them all.



H.J. Stroud, Hon. Secretary.

Treasurers Report.

See sheet below.

Court Place Farm Allotment Association

Accounts Year Ending Nov. 1980

General Account

Expenditure

Opening Stock	£1553.44
Purchases	£4671.87
Secretary's Honorarium and expenses.	£ 50.00
Treasurer's Honorarium and expenses.	£ 28.25
Paper Bags	£ 5.00
Electricity	£ 12.10
Transferred to Deposit A/C.	£ 500.00
Surplus for the year	£ 567.50
	<u>£7388.16</u>

Sales	£5001.55
Closing Stock	£2386.61

£7388.16

Stock 1980	£2386.61	Bank balance plus cash in hand	£404.20	Increase stock	£833.17
Stock 1979	<u>£1553.44</u>	Bank balance plus cash in hand	<u>£669.87</u>	Decrease in	<u>£265.67</u>
	£ 833.17		<u>£265.67</u>	Bank balance	<u>£567.50</u>

Deposit Account

Deposit March 13th	£500.00
Interest to date:	<u>£ 22.40</u>
	<u>£522.40</u>

Rent Account

Expenditure

Rent for land and shed	£ 114.67
Water Rate	£ 67.79
Allotment Federation Fee	£ 4.00
Hire of Mortimer Hall	£ 9.00
Grass Cutting	£ 35.00
Petrol for mower	£ 2.70
M.G. Priest. Insurance to Sept. '81.	£ 42.50
Cutting Willows	£ 40.00
Digging out ditch & hedging	£ 160.00
Step Ladder	£ 10.00
Connectors for improved water supply	£ 14.79
Secretary's Honorarium and expenses	£ 50.00
Treasurer's Honorarium and expenses	<u>£ 28.25</u>
	<u>£ 578.70</u>
	<u>£ 185.45</u>
	<u>£ 764.15</u>

Income

Balance brought forward	£111.15
Rents March & Sept.	£623.30
Fines for late rents	£ 13.50
Membership & Plot applications & Deposits	£ 16.20

£764.15

Balance at Bank Nov. '80.

NOTE: We are 6 months rent in arrears and next year it will be double at approx £230.

Mr Harris enquired why the cost of the
skip was not shown. The Secretary
explained that we get this free. Mrs
Faulkes thought that our Electric bill
was low but we hadn't used much.
Mr Harris thought our water bill was
high. It was explained that our water
was metered. Mr Harris thought we
ought to publicise this fact so as to
save water.

Election of Officers.

Chairman Mr A Smith
proposed Mr Slag. Seconded by Mr
Shont and Elected.

Mr A Smith proposed that the
outgoing committee be re-elected on. Blac.
Mr Pinfold declined to stand again.
So Committee to be Mr Shont Mr Faulkes
Mr Faulkes, Mr A Smith. Mr A Smith.
Mr Soames. Secretary Mr Strail,
Treasurer, Mr Paddy. Min. Secretary Mr
Shuban. Mr A Smith commented that
the lack of new committee men was
very disappointing and the association
would now be liable to more expense
as jobs would have to be put to
contractors.

Future rents.

Mr Paddy explained the position
on rents and that we would soon be
paying double. Mr Shuban read from
outgoing committee last meeting the
recommendation to the A. G. M. on future
rents £4-50 per lot + £3-50 OAPs per annum

Mr A Smith enquired from the Treasurer if this would be enough Mr Hendy thought so. Mr Harris thought that the General account ought to subsidise rents. Mr A Smith thought that the allottees ought to run the site with their own rent that they pay.

Proposal 1, £4-50 per annum + £3-50 O.A.P.s.
Outgoing Committee. Prop Mr Short Sec Mr Coates.

Proposal 2. by Mr Harris seconded by Mr Cavell. £4-00 per annum £2-75 O.A.P.s.

Vote Proposal 1. 8 votes proposal 2.
2 votes.

Any Other Business.

Mr Harris enquired about bad allottee adjacent to him the Secretary reported that the allottee had now been evicted and shed on his plot will be burnt.

Water supply.

More improvements to be done pipe to be supplied by the Council. Jiff was needed for wooden shed as it leaks also a patch was needed on this tiles.

We had asked council for help but it was irreparable.

Flooding

Mr Strand explained site problems and the expense that could be expected.

Committee members.

Discussion was held what was to be done to stop the

decline of committee publicity seemed to be
one way.

Site Wardens.

There were to be the same
as last year plus Mr Harris.
There being no further business the
meeting closed at 8-55 p.m. The first
committee meeting to be on 6th January
1981 at 7-30 p.m. Mortimer Hall.

J. Shu Han.
(minis Secretary.)