

minutes of the Court Place Farm Allotments
Association Annual General meeting held in
Martimer Hall, old Marston on 14th May
1997 the meeting commenced at 7.45 PM.

number of members present 12

apologies for absence Mr Don Ray.

minutes of the 1996 Annual General meeting.

Read and proposed as a true record by
Mr Savin Seconded by Mr ~~Stevie~~ Cann,
and vote unanimous

matters arising Mrs Allen asked for the
rent for a plot to be read out and
this was done.

chairman's report Mr Gurney read from
printed sheet shown on opposite page.
This was proposed as a true record by
Mr Savin and seconded by Mr Wheable.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The past twelve months have been interesting and, from my point of view, a success. I have encountered encouragement from members and solid assistance from the committee, with special mention to Pete Savins and Gerry Massey for their hours of labour, not forgetting the Secretary, without whose efforts the Association Shop could not function as it does.

Despite the dry weather it was a good growing year. The site produced some excellent specimens of produce, some of which the Lady Mayor and her entourage saw when they came to inspect the winning sites and plots in the City Allotment Competition. We had three individual winners. Congratulations to them, and how about more of you members entering this year? It costs nothing!!

The one major project was the planting of the plots cleared by the City Council. Some six hundred weight of potatoes (a gift from our seed suppliers) were planted and lifted by hand in order to stop the plots returning wild. The resulting crop was sold from the shop. Three of the five plots are now being worked by new allottees. This year six plots in the bottom field have been cleared of rubbish and are earmarked for the council to rotovate them.

We are at present updating three water tanks to the automatic filling type regulated by a ball valve; this will then complete the whole site.

Last year we encountered trouble with vandalism, consisting of burnt-out vehicles, dumping of stolen property, breaking the toilet window. Most concern was caused with the site being used by drug takers and their disregard for safety by the indiscriminate disposal of used needles and the relevant paraphernalia. The police were kept well informed and we still need the assistance of allottees in noting registration numbers of cars that are clearly not on the site for legal purposes. Numbers can be handed to any committee member.

Thanks to the Auditor.

It has been necessary recently to lock the Boults Lane entrance gate overnight. This has been done in the interest of all allottees, and I apologise for any inconvenience that this might cause. Only last weekend we had an attempted break-in to the two association sheds.

Once the City Council have decided if the present entrance gate is to become a permanent fixture, then we can make arrangements for making the site more secure.

The Association received gifts of two secondhand mowers from members. We thank them for their kindness.

May I ask all members to use water as economically as possible, especially during dry weather conditions, as it is likely to be a considerable drain on resources.

The Committee have decided that rents for 1997-98 will remain the same as at present. The Association will continue to offer its members a wide choice of merchandise at competitive prices, and endeavour to improve the site in respect of making plots more attractive to let, and keeping the site as tidy as possible. I would ask all members to help us in achieving our objectives, and to keep the complete site for the use as allotments.

Roy Gurney
Chairman

Secretary Report

The Secretary Mr Cann presented a printed sheet to the meeting shown on next page.

Mr Wheable warned about site being made smaller Mr Gurney warned about this statement was misleading as far as committee was concerned the site would stay the size that it is for the foreseeable future and any other view was pure speculation.

Mr Hodge asked about rights of way in the site. It was explained that our main entrance was a private road.



Secretary's Report:-

It has been a year of usual things really; long hot, dry days making germination very slow, if at all, making the job of watering a regular chore.

A number of minor thefts of crops and vandalism, which is nothing new.

We had a number of non-allottee cars entering the site for what could be described as drug related activities.

Therefore, the council installed a new gate, or white iron bar, which is lockable, although I am uncertain whether this is only a temporary measure.

It does seem to deter some of the cars which were entering the site for unallotment activities.

However, if we can try to keep it closed as much as possible it must help.

It has been necessary to lock the gate during the night on some occasions due to these cars appearing late in the evening so, if anyone has been inconvenienced then the committee apologies. However, I am sure you will all agree that it is better to be inconvenienced than run the risk of contracting Aids, from used needles, or assaulted by some addict.

The Council are continuing its policy of ploughing vacant plots, minimum of five or six, with the objective of bringing them back into use.

We had five ploughed, three are now being used with some degree of success, while the remaining two, although originally let, fell vacant again. However, with them now relatively flat and clear of debris it will be easier to keep them cut.

I have noticed a number of rubbish being dumped on vacant plots, not only old brassica stems but rubble.

Although it is not possible to tell where the material came from, I would like to remind everyone of the rules which basically states keep your rubbish to your own plot and if not compostable then burn it.

We are still looking for another trustee as Mr Wheable and Mr Weitz have resigned, Mr Gurney has agreed to stand as a trustee and I remain.

Although it is not the end of the world having only two trustees, there are a number of other allotment associations who do not have their full number of living trustees!, we can still operate effectively without three, even though our lease does ask for a total of three .

And finally, just to reassure everyone, our current lease runs for another four to five years, we, the committee and trustees, have no plans to give up any land.

As secretary, treasurer and senior trustee, I will be looking to renew the lease as before, with the same land that we currently hold and will be actively looking for new allottees.

sent account Mr Cann explained the printed sheets there were no questions. It was proposed by Mr Lawin and seconded by Mr Cann that the accounts were acceptable. Mr Cann also stated we had 92 allottees which equals $104\frac{1}{2}$ plots let.

The sheets of the accounts shown on meet two pages.



COURT PLACE FARM ALLOTTEE'S ASSOCIATION
ACCOUNTS FROM 1ST NOVEMBER 1995
TO 31st OCTOBER 1996.
Trading

	£		£
Opening Stock	1918.27	Sales	4496.87
Purchases	6051.95	Closing Stock	4430.40
Trading Profit	957.05		
	-----		-----
	8927.27		8927.27

General A/c.

	£		£
Expenditure		Opening Balance	1335.35
Electricity	87.35	Profit	957.05
Repairs to Mower	424.04	Bank Interest	57.68
Stationery & Stamps	13.46	Closing Balance	434.70
Shed Rent	114.00		
Insurance	107.62		
Petrol	22.89		
Hi Q Tyres	39.94		
Shed Repairs	16.50		
Bags, Staple Gun Etc.	40.60		
Bank Charges	12.00		
Secretary Hon.	50.00		
Treasurer Hon.	50.00		
	-----		-----
	978.40		
Deposit A/c	1806.38		
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	2784.78		2784.78

*Certified as a correct
Statement of the Accounts
presented.
J J Jandy
12/1/97*

COURT PLACE FARM ALLOTEE'S ASSOCIATION
Rent Accounts for year ending 31st October 1996

Rent Account:

	£		£
Rent for Land	826.91	Cash in Hand	168.54
Thames Water	282.16	Balance B.Fwd	1674.98
Skip Hire	103.40	Rent Received	1266.39
Petrol	65.11	Shed Rent	114.00
Scalping	154.87	Fair People Water	30.00
Stationery	12.30	Council Grant	200.00
Secretary's Hon.	50.00	Interest	12.61
Treasurer's Hon.	50.00	Machine Grant	200.00
	1544.75		

Closing Balance	2076.12
Cash in Hand	45.65
	3666.52

3666.52

*Accounts checked
as a true record of the
Rent account for
Year Ending 31st October 1996.
Dated 12/5/97*

Election of Committee

Chairman Mr Gurney proposed by Mr Lewin
Seconded by Mr Carr vote unanimous.

Secretary / Treasurer Mr Cann proposed by
Mr Lewin seconded by Mr Carr. Unanimous.

Miss Secretary Mr Sherkan proposed by
Mr Mossey seconded by Mr Gurney
Vote unanimous

Committee Mr Lewin, Mr Carr, Mr Mossey
Mr Wheable, Mrs Allen.

Auditor Mr Sandy proposed by Mr Wheable
Seconded by Mr Lewin unanimous

Warden Mr Gunning and one other to
be announced.

Justice one required, forms had been
received from Council for signing one
more trustee required no names forthcoming
so Justices will have to remain at 2.

1st committee meeting 18th June 1997.

any other business

A Mr. Hodge enquired if allottees can move from the bottom field to the top was there a rule preventing it. Answer no rule, movement of allottees was a committee decision and they would require reason for move and then make decision.

Bonfires Mr. Humming reported had made from an allottee near him. The chairman stated he would ask and report back.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8-45 PM

L. Sheehan.