

Minutes of the Caust Place Farm allotments
committee meeting held in Mortimer Hall,
old Marston, the meeting commenced at
7-35 pm. on 18th June 1997.

Members present Mr Gurney, Mr Carr,
Mr Sheehan, Mr Savin, Mrs Allen, Mr Carr
Mr Massey, Mr Wheable. All of committee
were present.

Minutes of the last meeting read and proposed
as a true record by Mr Savin
Seconded by Mr Carr.

Matters arising Mr Sandy had been sent a
letter of thanks for donating a mower to
the association.

Proposed new Rotavator Mr Savin queried the
position regarding insurance of this item.
Mr Gurney stated this matter would be
covered later in the meeting.

Chairmans report Mr Gurney reported that
Councillor Julian Baxter had inspected the
work on the culverts and this had now
been redone. Also the wall on the main
road end had been inspected as it was
crumbling. Photos had ~~been~~^{taken} the council were
aware and would restore the wall in
keeping with the character of the area.
Cars on site (unauthorised) Mr Gurney had
challenged the occupants of a car that had

no business on our site. The occupants had been told that numbers of unauthorised cars would be taken and they would then be under surveillance by the police. The vehicle then departed from the site.
Secretaries report.

Mr Conn reported we had obtained an old mower and we would find out the price to service it.

Treasurers report Mr Conn reported 11 rents were still to be paid and we had 94 allottees.

Rent account £1943-00 in the bank
General account £1230-27

£1821-75 in overflow account.

Mr Conn recommended that an overflow account be opened and £1000-00 be invested to get better interest.

Proposal open a premium account with £1000 of rent account money in Barclay Bank seconded by Mr Wheable and vote Unanimous.

Oxford City Allotments Competition

We had not been advised as to the date of this event. Mr Lavin had heard third hand that the competition was on. The council had checked and it was their fault completely. They had stated they would accept our late entry if we submitted it which we did. It was also agreed with them that on the day of judging they would

judge our site at 5-00pm. However on the day of judging they arrived on site at 11-15 a.m. and when confronted the judges would not change and judging took place. An allattee (Mr Varney) put in an official complaint to committee that this was not fair there was also another complaint. we had sent the council a letter about this matter, shown on next page. we had not received a reply and we would follow it up if there was no reply in 2 weeks.

Note the letter is shown overleaf.

~~Advised~~

COURT PLACE FARM ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION

Boults Lane
Old Marston
Oxford

Chairman:
Mr R. Gurney
8 Clays Close
Old Marston
Oxford

Secretary & Treasurer:
Mr T.L. Cann
8 Nicholas Avenue
Old Marston
Oxford OX3 0RN
Telephone: 01865 202104

12th June 1997

Re: 1997 City Council Best Kept Allotment Competition

Dear Mr Saunders,

I have been instructed by the committee and the participating allottees of this Association to contact you concerning the above competition.

Firstly, I was not contacted regarding notification of the competition, in fact I discovered by chance of the first judging date from another Association.

On your request, I handed my associations entrants into the Town Hall on Friday 30th May and you advised that we would be put at the back of the judging itinerary as all arrangements regarding other site times had already been fixed, the judges would be at my site at approximately 4.30 to 5PM on Wednesday 4th June.

The judges arrived at approximately 11:15 AM stating that they were in the area and as they did the judging they decided where and when they went!

Fortunately, the Chairman was present and was able to accompany the judges around the relevant plots, on which some entrants were actually working!!!

Mr Maurice Varney, an entrant and previous competition winner, is so incensed by this catalogue of events that he has with the Committee's backing made the following proposals:-

- * the initial judging on this site be null and void, and all points for the competition be calculated from the second judging on the 6th August OR

- * an allowance of ? points be given to every individual entrant from this Association.

I appreciated that arranging all the activities concerning the competition each year must be a thankless task, however, it is not as if we are a newly formed association, we have entered previous years competitions.

As you will probably understand this matter has caused all concerned great inconvenience and so I would be grateful if you could look into this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Timothy Cann.
Secretary & Treasurer.

Site mowers. Site wardens Mr Ray and Mr Conway had requested the use of two mowers in the morning. We keep two mowers in our "Soot Shed" and Ray would be required for two named persons.
Proposal from Mr Gurney that we allow 2 named wardens to have keys to our "Soot Shed" and access to 2 mowers Seconded by Mr Carr and vote unanimous.

Wardens. A list of site wardens co-opted to committee Mr Ward, Mr Conway, + Mr Ray.

Federation membership Mr Cann recommended that we continue with our membership Seconded by Mr Gurney and vote unanimous
Insurance We had received various quotes for i.e. Stock + machinery or Building and stock but we do not meet the Insurance requirements for prevention i.e. a fire lever Deadlock on our door. Premiums will be in the region of £300 per annum. It was felt that getting insurance on allotment sites was always a problem
Mrs Allen suggested that we make the

building secure so that we can get insured. Mr Gurney stated that the cost would be prohibitive.

Mr Savin suggested we spend money on our own security.

Proposal from Mr Gurney that we insure for Third Party and Fire but not machinery. And we also reinforce the Building and make our own security arrangements. Seconded by Mr Cann and Vote unanimous.

Rotavator the association will go ahead with the purchase of this item.

Committee meeting dates these would be 17th September 1997 26th November 1997 14th January 11th March, 8th April 1998 and the A.G.M. 13 May 1998.

Any other Business Mr Cann enquired about progress towards a new gate into the site answer we had not chased up and there was no news.

Mrs Allen proposed that we offer associate membership to the allottees on the Mill Lane site so that they could use our shop. This was also to encourage them. Vote for this unanimous.

The meeting closed at 8-50pm the next meeting to be at 7-30 AM 17th September in Mortimer Hall old Marston.

J. Shuler
MINS SECRETARY.