**MINUTES OF LRRHAA COMMITTEE MEETING**: Monday 4 November 2019

7:30pm • Rose Hill Community Centre

Those in Attendance:

Nick van Hear Co-Chair

Lorin Watt Secretary

Garth Bottomley Committee Member

Colin Cavey Committee Member

Theresa Gurl Committee Member

Ian Matten Committee Member

Terry Pike Member

1. **Apologies**: William Beinart, Khimding Devendra, Cathy Gibb, Arnold Harpin, Paul Wavell
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held Sept 23rd were read, agreed and signed off by Nick van Hear.
3. **Matters arising**
* **O&DFAA Centenary Competition.** Congratulations to Helen and Ian Matten, who won the overall Best Plot Challenge Trophy, and to William Beinart and Colin Cavey, who were highly commended by the judges.
* **Chickens:** In response to a recent query, it was confirmed that LRRHAA Rules do not permit chickens on site.
* **Loo Keys:** Refunds on old loo keys are no longer available.
* **Welcome packs:** It was agreed that pages from the welcome pack should be photocopied and signed off by new members and should also appear on the website.
1. **Treasurer's Finance Report** The treasurer did not attend the meeting but sent a summary of 2018/19 accounts and a 2019/20 draft budget for review.

 **2018/19** ran a deficit of £279.80, which is not sustainable in the long term. Water, at £1187 was by far the biggest expenditure**. The 2019/20** **draft budget**, which reflects the Sept 2019 rent increase, projects a surplus of £123.48 provided we see no unbudgeted surprises, such as the emergency lock replacement of last summer. The capital replacement pot shrank to £408.52 (we aim at £500). The committed surplus, at £1507.11 (down from £1786.91 last year) is still above the targeted minimum of £500.

**5. Lettings Report.** The Lettings Secretary was not available to provide an update, but had reported at the 28 October mini-meeting that empty plots would be assigned to those on the waiting list soon. The group on the 28th also reviewed arrears and addressed cases of unapproved "swaps" that have raised question marks over some plot assignments.

**6. Working Party Tasks for November 17th**

* Clear plots reclaimed by the Association as severely neglected and/or in arrears.
* Wildlife area (if SR available to supervise): pathway clearance, hedge cutting/planting, hand-cutting of long grass and perhaps work on pond
* Inside of Lenthall Road hedge
* Paint loo and play shed

**7. AGM**

* The AGM Agenda was reviewed.
* As of Nov 4th, two co-chairs, the other officers, and five committee members had submitted nominations for 2019/20
* **Rent 2020/21:** Members attending the AGM whether the surplus £123.48 is adequate and whether to top up the capital replacement.
* Among the strategies discussed for reducing/cushioning the water bill was an annual levy on structures with no water catchment per 4.5 of the Rules. Suggestions for reducing water consumption will be invited from the floor.

**8. Back-up Padlock/Bonfire Rules.** Responding to a member's query, the committee decided not

 to buy a reserve padlock in case of another problem with the gate as one could be obtained

 quickly if needed. The current day restrictions on **bonfires** will apply throughout the year and

 will be posted on the website.

**AOB**

* Further discussion about 1/4 plots was deferred to the December 2 meeting.
* In 2020, Working Parties will alternate between Saturdays and Sundays and the container will be open at least one Saturday per month.

**Next Committee Meeting: December 2nd**

**Next Working Party: November 17th**

**AGM: November 12th**