

Baldock Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association
Extraordinary Meeting
7.30pm Monday 23rd February 2009

Mick Camp opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending the Extraordinary Meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Jim Hennessy, Alison Gentle and Ken Sleep. Attendance was 42 members.

2. Grant Application

Mick Camp discussed the reply from the grant application which he received two days after the AGM.

Unfortunately the application had been unsuccessful with the letter setting out 2 key concerns.

The first reason was that membership to the Association must be open to all, The present constitution sets out that members must be proposed and seconded to become a member.

Secondly signatories in all financial matters must be unrelated. At the present time both Mr and Mrs Camp are both signatories this does not satisfy their financial control rules. This is now being amended with Mr Camp being deleted as a signatory and Jane Buckingham the General Secretary set-up as a signatory.

3. New Rules for Association

The key reason for the EGM was to discuss and agree an updated copy of the Constitution and Rules. This had been sent to members in advance to read and to bring any comments along to the meeting.

Mick Camp asked members for their comments and suggestions on the draft prepared.

Two points were raised:

- The repetition of the sentence "the General Committee shall meet as necessary to conduct the business of the Association" in point 5. It was agreed that this would be amended so that the sentence appeared once.
- Mick Camp reaffirmed that in point 8 that the General Secretary would be added as a bank signatory.

A vote was held to agree the draft Rules and Constitution which would replace the copy sent out to members.

Proposer: Peter Davies

Seconded: Phil Charsley

Members unanimously accepted the draft copy should replace the old Rules and Constitution.

Mick Camp gave a special thank you to Stuart Izzard who had helped with the grant application and would also be helping with a further application. The plan was to get the new application in before 31st March 2009.

Mick Camp added that he would be attending the Baldock Area Committee to request funding from the Council towards the grant application.

4. Security of Allotment Sites

Mick Camp discussed the recent break-ins at North Road, sheds had been broken in to with tools taken and children caught on the site.

Police have suggested an Allotment Watch Scheme so information on incidents can be circulated quickly to members. At the present time it is difficult to collate information about incidents, this scheme would help to get accurate information quicker.

Members were urged to be vigilante noting any suspicious vehicles or situations.

Angela Camp requested that members send their email address through to her so that information on incidents can be circulated quickly.

There was a general acceptance that Allotment Watch would be a good idea.

Mick Barlow volunteered to become the Co-ordinator for this new scheme.

The meeting was closed by Mick Camp who thanked everyone for the healthy attendance of the EGM.