

**Minutes of GAF meeting 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018**  
**Garnethill Multicultural Centre**

**Present:** Jenny Reeves JR(Chair), Iain Sutherland IS (Treasurer), Judy Wilkinson JW (Communications Secretary), Sarah Henry (Minute Secretary), Patricia Peters (SWAA), Ward Somerville(Beechwood), Liz MacKinlay (New Victoria Gardens), Jan MacDonald JM (Mansewood), Alison Gardner (KAA), Margaret Packer (Hamiltonhill)

**Apologies:** , Cllr Martha Wardrop, Hannah Connelly (Croftburn), Barbara Orton (Craigpark), Alister Smith (Croftburn), Sandy Paterson AP (Allotments Officer), Eddie Simpson (High Carntyne ) Amanda Robertson (Westthorn)

**Discussion: Bee Keeping on allotments - *Delia Henry***

**Business Meeting Agenda:**

1. Minutes of meeting: Jan 11th 2018
2. Allotment Officer's report
3. Brief Reports:
  - (i) Potato Day - *Jan MacDonald*
  - (ii) ADA (Allotment Development Awards - *Jenny Reeves*
  - (iii) Update website - *Jenny Reeves*
  - (iv) War and Peas - *Hannah Connolly*
  - (v) Digital Storytelling - RBGE project - *Judy Wilkinson*
4. Discussion: Glasgow Council Allotment Service - *Jenny Reeves*
5. A.O.B.

Date of next meeting:

1. Minutes from GAF meeting January 2018 agreed.
2. Allotment Officer's report. 2 issues with these
  - (i) Mansewood- what pest control was carried out at Mansewood allotment
  - (ii) New Victoria Gardens – reference to delay on work on trees but no reason why
3. Brief reports.
  - (i) Jan MacDonald report from Potato Day (financial spreadsheet attached to compare 2017/8. This year takings were down again, by £500. There are a few reasons for this, last year there were secondary potato days to sell stock and there were contributions from GLFN. This year reduced stock was purchased, but profit still down. Need to reconsider the aim of Potato Day in the future, certainly more volunteers needed (>40) and more home-baking for the café.  
Action: Schedule a meeting for September to discuss future plans for potato day. Potatoes still available if secretaries could inform ploholders and pass on Jan's contact details.
  - (ii) Allotment Development Awards. Meeting arranged for March 15<sup>th</sup> for GAF committee to discuss the procedure for the awards, but likely to be based on the community grants. Request the allotment sites express interest earlier than April 10<sup>th</sup> as the presentations will be on the 20<sup>th</sup> April at the Multicultural Centre. Expression of interest so far from Doreen Grainger (SWWA) and Derek Livesey (Merrylee Ploholders)  
Action: Meeting later to finalise. Allotment sites to express interest for submitting their allotment to this award.
  - (iii) New ploholder awards. Request for a new volunteer as Fiona has had to stand down this year. Duties include sending an email to all sites in May for any ploholders who have taken a plot since Jan 2017. Entries must be submitted by the allotment

secretaries by 15<sup>th</sup> July. Judge this year will be Angela Smith from the Royal Horticultural Society.

Action: Sarah Henry volunteered.

(iv) War and Peace information sent to GAF from Hannah as update.

Action: Information to be circulated to allotment secretaries.

(v) Website. Ongoing work updating website by Jenny and Barbara. Advice is to use Wordpress to host the website as it prevents adverts and security is good, but it has an annual fee of £120. Those present at the meeting agree to that.

Action: Jenny has arranged a training course and will start the new website design

(vi) Andy Crofts at the The Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh (RBGE) is involved in an EU 'bigpicnic' project on food security <https://www.bigpicnic.net>. RBGE input is a series of 'digital stories' - two minute stories from ordinary people about growing and food. The stories will be part of a travelling exhibition around Scotland. Andy wants some stories from plot-holders and Judy Wilkinson has agreed to get a group together. It will involve a few (three of four?) workshops to explain what is happening and gather stories. Anyone interested contact judy- [judy@atlas.co.uk](mailto:judy@atlas.co.uk).

Action: secretaries to forward the volunteer request to ploholders

(vii) Kitchen table discussions. Scottish food coalition encourages kitchen table discussions as part of the Good Food Nation bill. More information on the website <http://www.nourishscotland.org/campaigns/good-food-nation-bill/kitchen-table-talks/>, including discussion points, how to write up the discussion and advice for hosts.

#### 4. Discussion about GCC allotment service.

Concern raised from allotment sites that there is a lack of clarity regarding the guidelines given by GCC. The current guidelines date back to 1959 and reference a governance structure which no longer exists. There are many contradictions between the recommended guidelines offered by the GCC and the 1959 rules which are still in place. For example, if an association seeks to evict a tenant, then a general meeting must be called for all member in which the evicted tenant should explain their absence. The 1959 rules contradict the recommended GCC guidelines offered which states that warning letters should be written.

There is a concern that new rules will be implemented as a result of consultation on the Food growing strategy, of which no outcomes have yet been reported. And there a couple of points raised.

1. No overview, coordination nor plan given for the progress of the Food Growing Strategy, beyond looking at maps to identify land which isn't being used. Maybe the allotments need to be more assertive at involving schools, communities to food growing. Suggestion that a network of people involved in food growing and distributing could meet to plan a way to encourage and inspire more involvement within communities.
2. Involve more local councillors to advance food growing moving, especially those counsellors who aren't otherwise involved in allotments, but have similar interests in local community groups.

Action: request names of local councillors who might be interested. Suggestion of a separate meeting to discuss this further.