

Minutes GAF meeting on Thursday September 6th 2018, Garnethill Multicultural Centre, Rose st. at 7pm

Present: Iain Sutherland (Treasurer), Judy Wilkinson (Communications Secretary), Christine Kuhn (Hamiltonhill), Denis Barrett (Budhill), Ward Sommerville (Beechwood), William Gormley (Oatlands Gate), Stephane Secaud (Oatlands Gate), Scott Ramsey (Sir John Stirling Maxwell), Eddie Simpson (High Carntyne), Jan MacDonald (Mansewood), Liz MacKinlay (New Victoria Gardens)

Apologies: Jenny Reeves (Chair), Sandy Paterson AP (Allotments Officer), Sarah Henry (Hamiltonhill), Hannah Connelly (Croftburn), Delia Smith (Springburn), Doreen Grainger (SWAA), Marie Macfarlane (SWAA).

Discussion: 7pm - 8pm Note of meeting circulated and on web site.

Actions:

1 invite Baillie Balfour as chair of the Environment committee on a Learning Journey to visit several sites and talk to the plot-holders - he could not attend the one on August 31st. **Judy**

2. Set up a Forum meeting with Council officers open to all to discuss the implications of the Community Empowerment Act. Have examples of leases and possible structures. Angus Hardie who is on the Scottish Government Democracy Matters Enabling Group and Executive Director of Scottish Community Action is willing to act as a neutral chair. He also suggested GVCS should be asked for advice on leases and possible association structures. **Jenny, Judy, Iain**

3. GAF workshop 15th sept: Agenda item Jenny

Business meeting

1. Update on Oct 6th see web for Programme PLEA for home baking and preserves **please support GAF - this and Potato day are our only source of income.** Jan will order seeds, garlic and onions. Jan to approach local choir for some songs. **Action: All, Jan**

2. Potato day: Jan needs offer of Children's activities. **Action: All**

3. Veg city -see Glasgow Community Food network website. Also a Chef Challenge on Sept 24th and 27th good publicity for allotments. PLEA for produce - **Action All to Jan or Judy**

4. National chef Gary MacLean would like to visit allotments - decided a Spring visit would be idea, Jan is suggesting 'open gates' in the Spring which may tie in with this. Also possibly invite to Potato Day? **action Judy**

5. Aug 31st Learning Journey -two Councillors (Richardson and McTernan), the allotments officer (for part of time) and 11 plot-holders visited 5 sites and talked to a number of committee members and plot-holders. Report will be put up on web: Councillor Maggie McTernan said *'I enjoyed seeing the variety in the different allotments, and the different 'culture' of each group. I was particularly interested in the different ways that groups build community, often in very low key, gentle ways. In Springburn the diversity of the site holders offers an amazing chance for cross cultural learning and sharing. Meanwhile in Budhill, there is a very practical sharing of recycled wood and windows! I am particularly interested in how community groups can get involved in allotmenting, so I enjoyed hearing about the work that Jan is doing at Mansewood with schools. I think that this is something that has potential for others to replicate, whether with allotments or community gardens. It is so important to engage with children around growing, and environmental issues generally.'*

6. Allotment Officer's report on web.. Discussion on St Mungo.s awards -congratulation to Prize Winners but regret GAF not invited to ceremony (which was part of Rose Trials.)

action:suggestions previous years about widening criteria -what happened to this?
Possibility other prizes from GAF -ongoing discussion.

7. **Workshop Sept 15th St Georges Tron Church Buchanan St 10.30am -1pm** lots of issues to be resolved **please come if you can.**