L&DAS COMMITTEE REPORTS OCTOBER 2021

Treasurer Report October 2021

No significant items of income or expenditure this month:

Summary of our current position: Income YTD = £6710 Expenditure YTD = £4246 Current account balance ~£4045

Three 2022 budget scenarios prepared for discussion at next week's meeting.

Secretary Report October 2021

A quiet month. Bernard Derrick from Christchurch has continued his campaign to make the entrance/exit to the site safer. There is to be a meeting this Tuesday between local police and the three Local Authorities and he will let us know the outcome.

Our Waiting List has a steady number of new enquiries – numbers now standing at 112.

Site Report The Moggs October 2021

Four empty plots. Will look to re let in the New Year

Plot holders on one plot have informed us of short term exceptional circumstances. We have cleared/covered and donated the produce to Highfield Community Larder in Stafford. They have asked so some advice in starting their own allotment to provide produce for their shop. I will see if this develops.

A tree has fallen by the main gate and the fence between the site and the right of way path will need replaced over the winter, though the site is secure.

A number of existing plot holders have asked about the possibility of taking up a further plot. Although we have a long waiting list and society advice is 1 full plot per tenant, is this something we need to reconsider? About a 3rd of the new tenants I have rented out to in the last 18 months have not lasted (some no more than 3 months). By allowing existing tenants to have more we are at least guaranteed good plot management. The hedges at Moggs, Christchurch and Beacon Street will be cut over the next month or so.

Site Report Netherstowe October 2021

The sewage leak has reappeared which is very disappointing! Severn Trent have been back to site and repairs are starting today. I am pushing for further compensation.

We have encountered problems with youths hanging around the graveyard early evening time and who also threw stones at a plot holder who called the Police who attended. I have now after speaking to the church put a lock on the gate from the graveyard into the site, this seems to be working currently.

We have 2 half plots vacant but 2 existing plot holders have asked if they can give up their current plots and move to the vacant ones which we have agreed to. I shall update shortly on the plot numbers once both moves complete.

Site Report Beacon Street October 2021

Plots 3A1 and 3A2 have been let. An NVS booklet has been handed out to, and joining fees of £5 have been received from, each tenant.

One tenant has responded to the Early Warning letter and is working hard to maintain the plot. We want to send an Early Warning letter to the tenant on another plot.

One plot being cleared and another will become vacant at the end of October and I will need a name from the waiting list for then.

The branch overhanging the hedge has been trimmed and hedge cutting can now go ahead.

A tenant asked about the allotment rules. I advised that the only rules that are enforceable are those contained in the version of the tenancy agreement that they signed and those of the Constitution. Does anyone have any comments?

Site Report Christchurch September 2021

We are all steady at the moment regarding plot occupancy. There are a couple of plots I am keeping my eye on but both tenants have been in touch to explain their circumstances.

I will order another 2 bags of hardcore for the track. The mower will go in for a service after it is dry enough for me to do a final mow of the season

Site Report Cherry Orchard October 2021

Comms Officer Report October 2021

Facebook update since last meeting:

- As 18 October 74 members. 1 new member accepted, 1 request declined (non-plot holder).
- Several positive and 'newsie' posts by members since the last meeting. No particular issues raised for the committee.

Public Messages on the Website

My last report mentioned needing to get public messages (such as the covid announcement from the July meeting) and public minutes on the website in a timely way

Would it help if either the Comms Officer or the Secretary had access rights to the website to help with routine updates?