

COMAS Minutes of the Open Meeting

Tuesday 16th October 2018, 19:00, Brunswick Church

Present

Salih Ayan

Gordon Flear *Treasurer*

Zoe Hopkins

Margaret Jamieson

Martin Toal *Chair*

Apologies

Ian Jamieson

Andrea Szebo

1. Chair's report

- a. Martin confirmed that the meanwhile site is now closed. The green container that was there has been moved.
- b. We are waiting for the raised beds to be moved to the joint FOGGGS and COMAS site at Cray Walk.
- c. We have now taken joint ownership with S4B of the Proud Trust allotment site at Elizabeth Yarwood Court (EYC), which we should be able to use for the next two years before the Court's scheduled demolition. Martin asked for volunteers to join Sally from the Proud Trust to put the cover over the polytunnel on Friday 19th October.
- d. The Committee were shown a copy of the allotment terms and conditions. This is the standard Manchester City Council Allotment Tenancy Agreement.

2. Treasurer's report

Apart from the purchase of an extension reel for the grass strimmer we have not used any more of our funds.

3. Update on new allotment site

- a. The site should be completed by December. The charges for the plots will be £5 a year rental and a fee of £10 a year for utilities. This consists of metered water usage, and (later on) electricity if and when we get a power supply.

- b. There will be a meeting tomorrow with S4B to allocate the plots. The priorities for the allocation was explained. There will be:
 - i. the raised beds for EYC and people with disabilities,
 - ii. three beds for COMAS committee members,
 - iii. then the plots will be allocated firstly to applicants in the high-rise flats,
 - iv. then the maisonettes,
 - v. then houses without gardens,
 - vi. then those with gardens,
 - vii. and finally, to houses in the area which are not managed by S4B.

4. Driveway initiative

- a. One person has received a planter for the balcony, another is awaiting a raised bed and a third is having a wheelchair-friendly raised bed.

5. Any other business

- a. Martin then updated us on his recent visit to the Lalley allotments in North Manchester. This was a *Growing Manchester* networking event for allotment users in the city.
- b. One person asked if we would be able to purchase larger pieces of equipment for the allotment users like a rotavator. We said this would have to be looked into once the site was in use.