

COMAS Open Meeting Minutes

Saturday 18th January 2020, 14:00hrs, Brunswick Church

Present

Adel Elmyhibi	Resident
Gordon Flear	Treasurer
Zoe Hopkins	Committee Member
Margaret Jamieson	Secretary
Bernard Priest	Ardwick Ward Councillor
Neal Roberts	Plot Holder
Martin Toal	Chair

Apologies

Lisa Brown	Forever Manchester
Ian Jamieson	Committee Member
Katrina Keane	Ardwick Neighbourhood Team

1. Quarterly Report

- a. Martin opened the meeting by reading the quarterly report. Its highlights included the fact that COMAS now have two sheds in Hartfield Close Allotments and the polytunnel has been moved from Elizabeth Yarwood Court (EYC) and will soon be erected at Hartfield Close. The society was given some flags and planks from S4B workers, work is ongoing to supply mains electricity to the Portacabin. COMAS has acquired many 40litre bags of compost and an arrangement has been made with the Council's open areas maintenance team about Cray Walk.
- b. The report was linked to Gordon giving an update of the finances, with negligible income and £416 of expense this last quarter.
- c. We then discussed some items arising from the report. Bernard offered to contact S4B to discuss the problem with the electricity supply and see if he could encourage them to contribute to the connection of a mains supply to the green cabinet inside the allotment site. We could also apply for funds for a connection between the cabinet and the Portacabin – then we will be able to host community events in the summer.
- d. Bernard also suggested that the university may be able to provide transport to acquire the composting loo offered to COMAS.
- e. COMAS made its disappointment known over the reduced support from the Council for community empowerment concerning its Cray Walk plans.

2. Future projects

- a. We will ask *Sow the City* if we can host some gardening sessions again this year, preferably on a Saturday.
- b. We are now moving the weekly gardening sessions to a Saturday.
- c. The drive is on for Brunswick residents and groups to make full use of the EYC raised beds in this final year of the gardens.

3. Any other business

- a. Neal asked if we could provide a light for evening gardening when we have power to the site.
 - b. Zoe asked could we get an outside notice board to keep the plot holders updated.
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After-meeting

Bernard accompanied the Committee members present at the meeting to Hartfield Close Allotments so he could see some of the issues which were highlighted by the quarterly report.