

1. PRESENT

Tim, David, Steve, Robin, Abi, Ros, Jean

2. APOLOGIES

Lynne, Robin

3. MINUTES OF MEETING 16.10.19

Accepted as correct.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- a) It appears that there were disagreements from the meeting in October. Any disagreements can be brought up at the following meeting.
- b) PTC are going to actively discourage the use of pesticides following the discussions.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

Income		Outgoings	
Shed Sales	£526.55		
Membership fees			
Sheet (28)	£140.00		
Tilmore (23)	£115.00		
Kings Seeds	£1,170.09		£1,170.09
Current bank balance	£1,616.44		
Yet to be paid:			
Potato order			£164.35
RHS insurance			£200.00

6. MEMBERSHIP REPORT

34 members paid their subscription at the AGM. Another 17 members paid with their seed order and we have 2 associate members.

7. TRADING REPORT

There is minimum stock left in the shed currently. A new order will be received soon. Shed due to open 1st March.

8. SEED ORDER REPORT

It takes Ros three days to process all the seed orders. This year there were 42 orders and 2 from Associate members. In total, around £1600 worth of seeds costing £800. They have been received and collected except for 5 orders. Ros to call them when she is back from a short holiday.

9. DATA PROTECTION

David had produced a report for the meeting which was fully discussed. The sharing of data is now difficult and we have to be very careful about how we treat people's information. Knowing who is a STAA member and who is not is an ongoing issue but it was agreed that David would produce membership cards; the distribution of which may be another problem. He will also keep the database including email addresses if members agree to provide them. They can be asked at the AGM. A database can also be a tool to keep tabs on fee paying. Alison has a list of the members which includes names and plot numbers only. Any communication to plot holders has to go through the respective Councils. Information about the Association is communicated to new plot holders by the Councils at the time they sign their agreement but active canvassing for members is difficult without going to meet each one.

10. RAISING PROFILE OF STAA

A laminated A3 sheet to be produced 'Introduction to STAA' to be put up on notice-boards at each site

Action: Alison to give copy to Steve

- a) It was thought that existing members could speak with their allotment neighbours to encourage them to join the Association. Alison had already agreed with the two councils that new plot holders tick a box that they are happy for their details to be passed to the STAA.
- b) It was also agreed to increase the membership fees at the next AGM to £7 as it is difficult to provide all the benefits offered with the current amount.

11. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Associate members do not have a plot and it was agreed not to have any more of these in the future.

12. A.O.B

- a) A cheaper source of manure is to be investigated.
- b) Tim announced that there will be a new category in the Plot Judging next summer with the introduction of a 'Wild Area' classification which will need to be clearly marked to be distinctive from the cultivated areas.
- c) Ros brought up the subject of whether competition winners should be excluded from the following year's judging. This was thought not to be appropriate but the competition will still be an 'opt in'.
- d) The latch on the bottom gate is broken. – Doug to be notified.

The date of the next meeting is 24th March 2020.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm