

**1. ATTENDING:**

Margaret Davis - Chair  
Abi Grute - Trading Secretary  
David Mogg - Membership Secretary and Webmaster  
Alison Carling - Treasurer  
Steve Elliott - Sheet Rep  
Georgie Thurlby - Association Secretary

**2. APOLOGIES:**

Slaney Hopkins - Tilmore Rep  
Jerry and June Germey - Tilmore Rep

**3. MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

A brief update was provided on the actions from the last meeting, as follows:

The laminator had been purchased as agreed and was currently in Abi's possession.

Georgie had been speaking with PTC about the matters raised at the previous meeting but had not yet had a response back.

**Action: Georgie to send a polite chasing email to PTC.**

The committee approved the minutes of the last meeting.

**4. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**5. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Alison provided a brief update as follows:

Community a/c	£473.40
Deposit a/c	£146.57

Transactions since 1<sup>st</sup> March:

Chq 100193 - £44.54	Laminator & Brackets for shed shelving
Chq 100188 - £145.00	RHS Insurance
Chq 100120 - £15.05	Ros Smith seed order postage expenses 30/10/2021
Shed money paid in	£72.00

It was also confirmed post-meeting that the paperwork for the signatory amendments has been completed and posted to Barclays Business Mandate Change Centre.

**6. TRADING SHED UPDATE**

Abi provided an update as follows. The Shed had had a good start to the season and there had been takings of £669.59 including £30 membership fees (as the Shed team of Abi and Steve had managed to attract 6 new members). £100 of Shed vouchers had also been spent.

Some of the missing potatoes ordered from KG Loach had appeared but there had been a mixup with the invoicing which Abi and Alison were sorting out.

Abi and Steve had opened the Shed twice for people that were not able to attend the Sunday openings, and have also done some home deliveries. They were thanked for their excellent customer service.

Confirmed that the Shed will be opening every Sunday until the end of May, apart from Easter Sunday (as they had opened for Mother's Day and it was very quiet). There were a couple of Sundays when either Abi or Steve would be away and other committee members agreed to cover these.

Abi asked David to produce some business cards for the Shed with contact details so that these could be handed out to people.

**Action: David to produce some business cards for the Shed.**

## 7. MATTERS ARISING

### a. Retailer discounts

No updates to report since last meeting.

### b. Vacant plots at Tilmore

There was a discussion about the lack of new ploholders at Tilmore in the last few months even though there were several unoccupied plots currently. According to PTC there was still a large waiting list but it was taking some time to conduct viewings and finalise tenancies. The committee were aware that there were several plots in a very poor condition which had not been occupied for several years (and were now completely overrun with brambles, for example) which was presumably putting off prospective tenants - committee members felt that they would certainly not take on a plot in that condition. Previously the council had been offering to clear/rotavate plots that had become overgrown before they were taken on by new tenants, but it was not known whether this was still being offered as we were aware there had been some changes in the Grounds team, and it was suggested that perhaps it might be necessary to get this done before prospective tenants viewed the particularly overgrown plots as otherwise nobody would ever agree to take them on.

Agreed that it was in everyone's interests to have all plots being used and cared for and discussed whether there is anything we can do as an association to help get these plots occupied.

Agreed that Abi would contact Cllr Peter Clist at PTC (Chairman of the Grounds Committee) to ask whether there is anything we can do to help get plots occupied. **Action: Abi to contact Peter Clist.**

## 8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Alison had prepared the newsletter and this had been sent out to ploholders via the councils.

Steve had had a walk-around with Robin and Jenny at the Sheet site and continues to have a good relationship with them. One ploholder had been evicted for not cultivating their plot for two years despite several reminders. The water had been switched back on for the new season.

A member had emailed Georgie to ask whether the committee minutes could be added to the website again as this had not happened since 2020. Agreed that David would resume uploading the committee minutes to the website and that in future this would happen after the following meeting when the minutes had been approved by the committee. **Action: David to upload committee minutes to website.**

There had also been some feedback about the text on the website being too small and David had made changes to the default size and colour of the text which seems to have solved the problem. Discussed the hosting of the website which is currently with Weebly which we do not pay anything for. It was agreed that it would not be necessary to change this arrangement.

Discussed having an association barbecue in June or July (timing up for debate as there would be a lot of Platinum Jubilee events in June). Previous barbecues had been held at a time when there were plenty of spare courgettes, sweetcorn etc to be eaten and this had worked well. The space that had previously been used at Sheet was still empty so could be used again this year. Agreed that it would be sensible for us to raise this with Jenny and Robin at SPC to check that they are OK with it and if we need to apply for any licenses or do any checks. Also agreed that we should have a discussion about the operational detail at the next meeting. **Action: Georgie to put it on the agenda for next meeting.**

Georgie raised that a member at Tilmore had had concerns about another ploholder spraying herbicides which had drifted all over the adjoining paths as could be seen by the yellow grass. The council had been made aware of this as they have a policy of restricting pesticide use on their land. The committee noted this but it was agreed that this would have to be a matter for the council to enforce.

Margaret thanked all the committee members for their efforts.

The meeting was closed at 9pm.

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th May, 7.30pm.**