

GLASGOW ALLOTMENTS FORUM

Minutes Meeting Woodside Halls 7pm Wednesday November 4th 2009 following the AGM

1. Present Liz MacKinlay (Chair), Betty Stewart (Treasurer), Judy Wilkinson (Secretary), Tommy McDonald (Assistant Director LES), Robert Watson (Allotments Officer), Cllr George Roberts; Representatives from New Victoria Gardens, Merrylee, Kelvinside (Julian and Kirklee), Mansewood, High Carntyne, Oatlands, Berridale, Reidvale, Hamiltonhill, Beechwood, Garscube, Holmlea, South Western, North Kelvin Meadows, Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society,

2. Apologies: Eric Dryburgh (Vice Chair), Pat Tweed (Barlornock), Councillor Martha Wardrop, Peter Flynn (Beechwood), Kathryn Venart (Budhill and Springboig), Elinor Logan (SAGE), Murray Fox (Westhorn),

3. Presentation from Tommy McDonald Assistant Director Land and Environmental Services (attached)

4. Minutes last meeting approved

5. [Treasurer's Report given in AGM]

6.:Allotment Officers Report: Matters Arising from September meeting:

St Mungo Trophy – At next GAF meeting in January 2010, consider judging schedule and location for presenting the 2010 trophy. 2010 Glasgow Show takes place, Saturday 31st July & Sunday 1st August,

Funding –All allotment associations are encouraged to apply to Council Area Committee's for funding. Staff at the Chief Executives Office can advise on how to complete forms. The Allotments Officer can also offer advice on filling in details.

Waste – Details of proposed pilot project have been sent to the Council's Waste Disposal team for consideration to include in existing supply/uplift routes.

Wheelie Bins – Waste Disposal team are to advise on availability of redundant wheelie bins, which could be used as water butts.

Schools and Allotments – Joint report by Land and Environmental Services and Education Services was presented to the Council's Sustainability and the Environment Policy Development Committee on 7th October 2009. The aspirations of the report were supported. The main aim of the project is to promote the health and environmental benefits of allotment gardening to all schools in Glasgow. It also aims to build on the existing examples of partnerships with schools and allotment associations. Schools education packs for growing are being prepared by Education Services and will be circulated to schools, when packs are complete, copies will be provided to allotment associations.

Robert Watson Allotment's Officer

Questions from Allotment officer report at AGM:

(i) Allotment Strategy – need to keep data on number applicants for plots – request to private sites to provide data on waiting lists. **Action Secretaries private sites send information**

(ii) Evening classes on gardening with weekend training at Cardonald starting in January but rapidly filling up – ring 272 3331

(iii) Rules that plot-holders to only have one plot to be enforced on Council sites. However the sites that have just come under Parks will allow existing plot-holders to retain additional plots.

(iv) Japanese knotweed – escalating at Hamiltonhill, now on 7 new plots. Allotments Officer requested treatment **Action Tommy McDonald**

(vi) The presentation on Schools and allotments from LES and Education to the Sustainability and the Environment Policy Development Committee is on Council web site. **Action web master – link to GAF site**

7. Matters arising from minutes

(i) Newsletter has been circulated and copies on the GAF web site

(ii) Oatlands *Robert Watson, Secretary Oatlands*, - Progress on the new site at Oatlands. The plot-holders are pleased at the agreement that the old site will be preserved until 8 weeks after the new site is open.

(iii) Sustainability and Environment committee – reported support for allotments in Council and presentation (see 6(vi)) leading to action on schools and allotments as a result of requests from GAF meeting *Cllr Roberts*-

(iv) Area Forums –progress on applications in Allotment Officer's report to AGM,

(iv) St Mungo Trophy – Date for Glasgow Show 31st July and 1st August. Details at next meeting *Robert Watson, Betty Stewart and web-master*

8. Funding

Land fill Tax – need to register with ENTRUST.

What are the criteria – are Community Gardens eligible?

Action Tommy McDonald, Secretary

The rest of the business was postponed until the next meeting Wednesday January 13th