

North Staffs Allotments Network Minutes
Annual General Meeting
7th April 2024

Attendance: Victoria Shepherd, Newford Cres; Gayleen Milward, Campbell Road; Nicola Farrin, Richmond Street; Paul Myatt, Richmond Street; Sharon Martin, Caverswall Lane; Steve Plant, Campbell Road; Kate Mannion; Bruce Jarvest, Thistleyhough; Jayne Stokes, Colville Street.

Apology: Sarah Hill, John Storer, Scott of Dollys Lane.

Introduction: Bruce welcomed everyone.

Minutes from previous meeting. Jayne quickly went through them, and they were passed.

Minutes from this meeting:

As Sarah was unable to attend no updates on any issues, we had previously asked her to take to the allotments team.

Annual nomination of posts for four job roles as required by the constitution.

Chairperson - Bruce Jarvest nominated by Jayne seconded by Derek.

Secretary – Jayne Stokes nominated by Bruce seconded by Derek.

Treasurer – Jayne Stokes will stay in post for now until another candidate can be found.

IT Role – Victoria Shepherd nominated by Jayne seconded by Bruce.

Survey is being completed of all sites and a discussion on making sure to get a good outcome for all. Also, a discussion of the rents of each site and how they may vary dependent on facilities.

Constitution: Jayne found a copy of the Networks constitution and asked Victoria to put it on the website.

Pavilion at Campbell Road. A discussion took place regarding the Network taking on the property as a base. Will ask Sarah to find out if that would be feasible.

Jayne delivered the annual accounts but payments for the website and management will be added to the 2025 accounts, due to sorting out the bank accounts for signatories. A copy of the accounts will be put on the web site.

A question was asked about how a secretary was elected on the council run sites. The allotments department can send ballot papers if a site would like to go through that process.

A.O.B

Derek followed up with more information about how to deal with food that sites may have a glut of. Will contact VAST to obtain a list of organisations that would be grateful of the produce. Will keep us updated.

Homeless are still breaking into Campbell Road.

Also, Richmond Street have had a break in. Paul reported that not a lot was stolen but the damaged was frustrating.

Change of meeting from a Sunday to a Wednesday during the summer months. Will devise a poster with dates to go to all sites for the notice board. Start time 7.30 pm.

Kate from Newcastle asked if she has obtained a plot yet. Her answer was no. She outlined her frustration that the site near her has many plots not being worked but still can not get a plot. Bruce said he would try to push this for her with Newcastle Council.

Victoria asked for any articles and pictures for the web site.

Derek mentioned Community in Bloom and sites getting involved.

Meeting closed.

Date of next meeting: 8th May

Venue: Travellers Rest, Werrington Road, Bucknall

Time: 7.30 p.m.