



THE FEDERATION OF
EDINBURGH AND DISTRICT
ALLOTMENTS AND
GARDENS ASSOCIATIONS

***Management Team Meeting
7pm on 9th October 2018 at Southside Community Centre***

Present: Committee: Stuart McKenzie - Inverleith (**SMcK**) (President) : Liz Grace - Midmar (**LG**) (Secretary) : Dave Roberts - Craigentinny Telferton (**DR**) (Treasurer) : Peter Wright - Lady Road (**PW**) : Ernie Watt - Cambridge Avenue (**EW**); Observers: Yvonne Dawe - Saughton Mains (**YD**) : Margaret McLennan - Bridgend (**MMcL**) : Jane Robinson - West Mains (**JR**).

1. Apologies: Paul Kerr - Redhall (**PK**) : Alison Hewitt - Warriston (**AH**) : John Grace - Midmar (**JG**) : Maureen Edwards - Lady Road (**ME**) : Gilbert Clark - Midmar (**GC**) : Alice Bain - Warriston (**AB**) : Neiria McClure - Claremont Park (**NMcC**) : Rosina Weightman - Saughton Mains (**RW**).

2. Adoption of Minutes of 18th September: The Minutes were approved by **DR** and seconded by **EW**.

3. Matters Arising: **SMcK** had written to the Trading Secretary asking if he was preparing to issue order forms for this year's Seed Potato and Onion Set Trading Scheme. A reply stating that this will happen has been received. Unfortunately, the Trading Secretary was not present to discuss his plans. **SMcK** will contact him again as a matter of urgency. It was **AGREED** that forms should be issued electronically in a bid to recover lost time and forms will be available at the AGM as well. A note will appear in the Newsletter prompting members to contact their site representative if they'd like to place an order. It was noted that due to the dry summer varieties may be restricted and prices likely to be higher than usual.
ACTION - SMcK.

4. Site Reports: **MMcL** said that Bridgend had a successful AGM which saw all posts filled and everyone happy. Plans were made for autumn clean up work parties.

JR reported that West Mains had a successful AGM as well, with new office bearers in place as their constitution demands a rotation to prevent stagnation and encourage wider participation.

DR said the Craigentinny Telferton AGM will take place next month.

SMcK said the Inverleith Show was a great success and was photographed by Scottish Field magazine thanks to an initiative by a plothead.

YD reported that Saughton Mains AGM was recently held with Mary Simpson stepping down. After having waited a long time for the Allotment Officer to provide paint as promised, the site committee purchased their own and painted the entrance gate. The apple press has been used, and a second truckload of zoo poo has been purchased and sold to ploholders at 50p per barrowload with a small profit for the site committee. Overhanging trees from the Water of Leith walkway require to be pruned to prevent plots being shaded. This request will be passed on to **NMcC** so she can add it to the Maintenance List.

5. President's Report: SMcK has arranged for bulk orders of REMIN Rockdust to be supplied at a discount. Minimum order: 49 bags. If any sites are interested they should contact him. This will be publicised in the Newsletter. **ACTION - EW. SMcK** will attend the next SAGS meeting this coming weekend. SAGS is about to become a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) which will aid their applications for funding and grants. He wondered if FEDAGA could also consider this. However, it was pointed out that to qualify, a charitable purpose must be demonstrable and this could be difficult. The next Allotment Strategy meeting will take place on 26th October. **SMcK, DR** and **EW** will attend.

6. Secretary's Report: LG said that following on from last month's suggestion to stage a talk for members by Charles Dowding on No Dig gardening which was rejected due to cost, it has been proposed that he should be invited to the Science or Book Festivals. She also told the meeting of her own No Dig experiment just started on her plot using a product called Strulch, a wheat straw mulch. She will report back.

7. Treasurer's Report: DR is preparing the accounts for the AGM and will meet with Brian Horsburgh tomorrow to look at how to deal with committed costs carried over to the following year. All other calculations are satisfactory. There was discussion on how to deal with monies due to sites that will not talk to us or do not have either a committee or bank account. It was suggested that if they have still not replied by the end of the year the money should be disposed of by way of an appropriate charitable donation. This will be discussed at the AGM. **ACTION - DR.**

8. Other Reports: Due to absences there are no Maintenance, Planning or Trading Reports. However, **AH's** note of apology added that she had seen no planning applications that were likely to affect any allotments. **JG** has submitted a draft Show Report that will be supplemented and presented to the AGM.

9. AGM: The Annual General Meeting will take place on 23rd October. The agenda was considered and final arrangements were made to plan the meeting. Guest speakers will be Ian Woolard, Council Allotment Officer, who will speak on his plans for the coming year and has indicated that he will be willing to answer questions. Also, a speaker from Summerhall cultural "village" who is planning a vertical garden, which may be of interest to members.

10. Any Other Business: None.

11. Date of Next Meeting: 13th November.